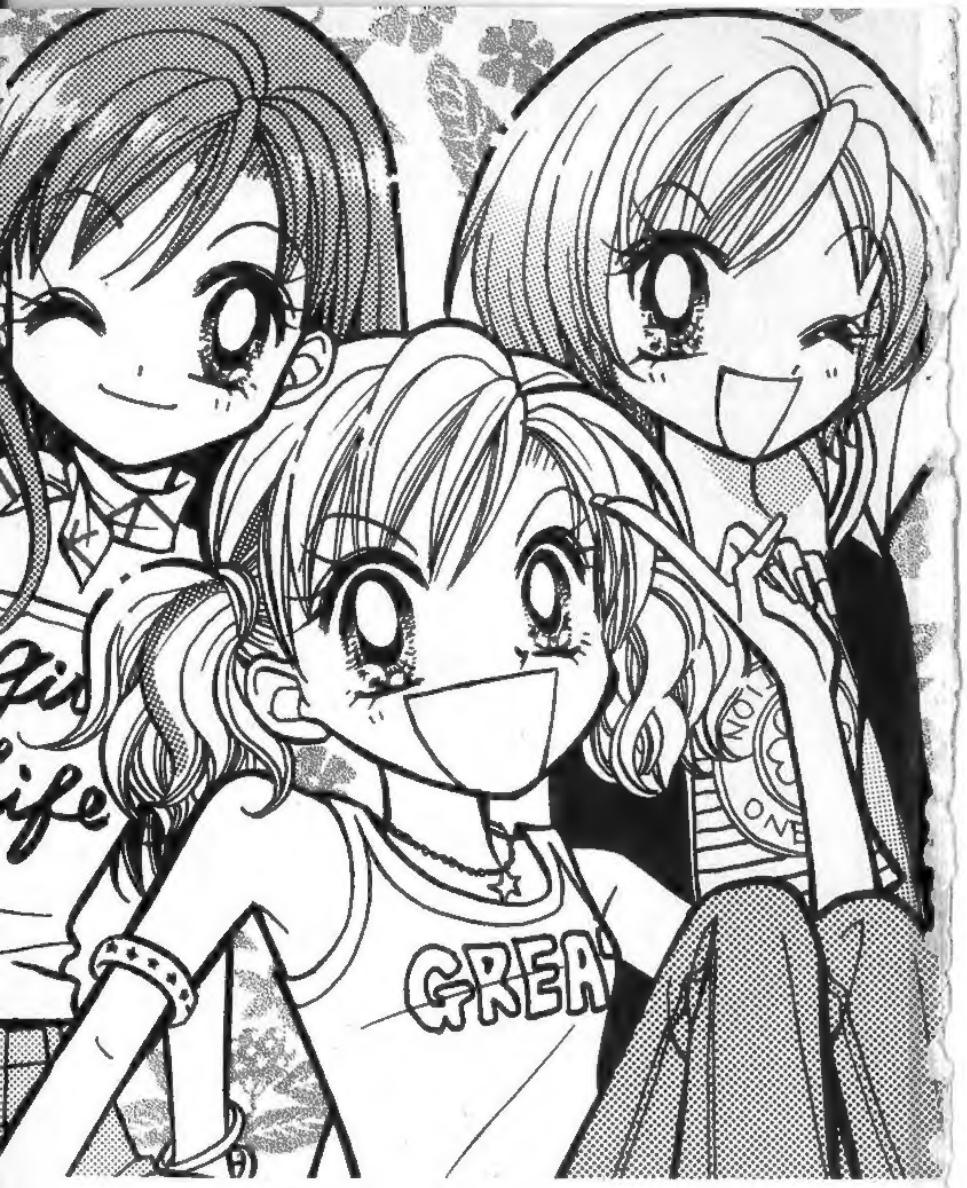
KEIZOKU-SCANS
...and the manga goes on
DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES SHARE OUTSIDE OF IRC!

Mihona Fujii

GALS! 6



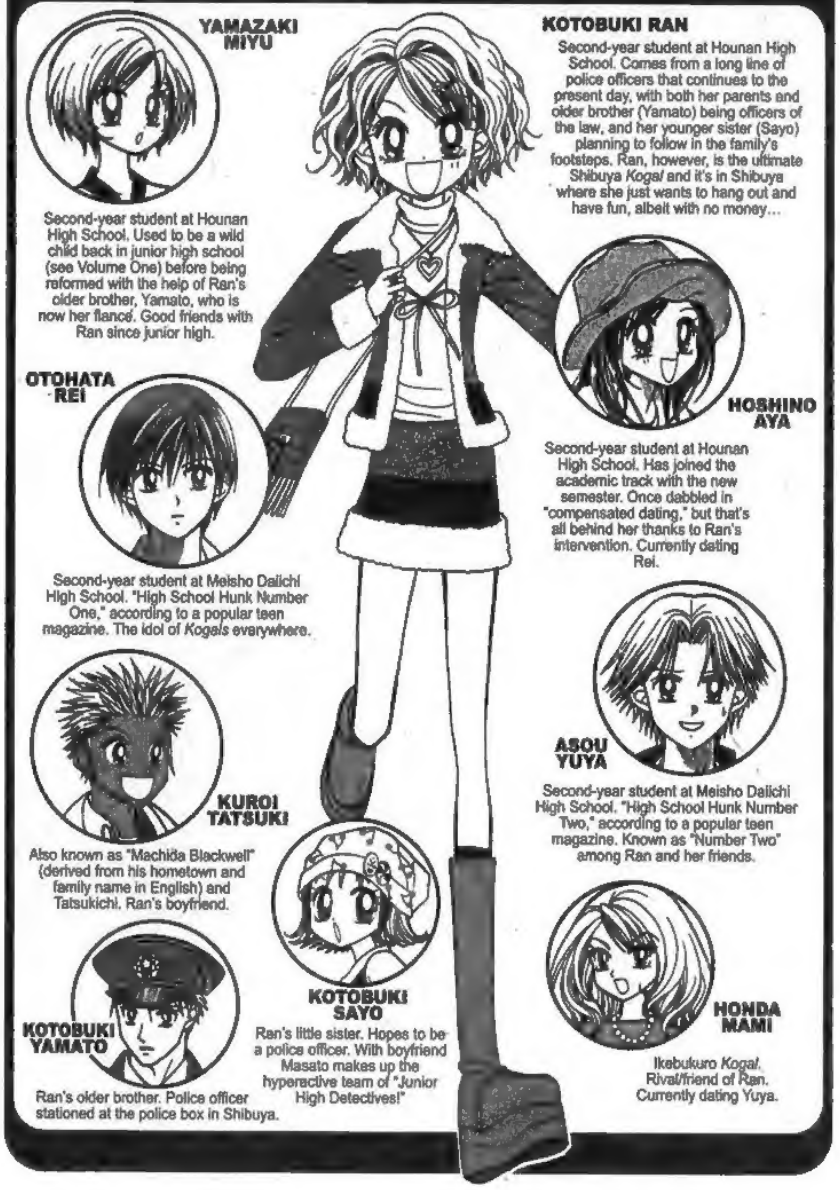
GALS!

Volume 6

By Mihona Fujii

SUMMER SCHOOL HOMEWORK, MY BUTT! THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE!! NO WAY I CAN GET THIS DONE!!!
WHAP
KOTOBUKI WORKBOOK SPECIALLY PREPARED BY NAKA-SEN JAPANESE
OH, COME ON! YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME! JUST LOOKIT THIS!!
I'LL CALL HIM FOR YOU. ♫
PI PI PI PI
I'LL JUST HAVE TO GET NUMBER TWO TO HELP ME!!!
WELL, I CAN'T HELP YOU OUT. I'VE GOT MOCK EXAMS COMING UP.
GALS! 6
OH, MY GOD!!!
NUMBER TWO-KUN SAYS HE'S NOT ALLOWED TO STEP FOOT OUTSIDE OF IKEBUKURO...

GALS! Main Character Introduction



YAMAZAKI MIYU

Second-year student at Hounan High School. Used to be a wild child back in junior high school (see Volume One) before being reformed with the help of Ran's older brother, Yamato, who is now her fiancé. Good friends with Ran since junior high.

KOTOBUKI RAN

Second-year student at Hounan High School. Comes from a long line of police officers that continues to the present day, with both her parents and older brother (Yamato) being officers of the law, and her younger sister (Sayo) planning to follow in the family's footsteps. Ran, however, is the ultimate Shibuya *Kogal* and it's in Shibuya where she just wants to hang out and have fun, albeit with no money...

HOSHINO AYA

Second-year student at Hounan High School. Has joined the academic track with the new semester. Once dabbled in "compensated dating," but that's all behind her thanks to Ran's intervention. Currently dating Rei.

OTOHATA REI

Second-year student at Meisho Dalichi High School. "High School Hunk Number One," according to a popular teen magazine. The idol of *Kogals* everywhere.

ASOU YUYA

Second-year student at Meisho Dalichi High School. "High School Hunk Number Two," according to a popular teen magazine. Known as "Number Two" among Ran and her friends.

KUROI TATSUKI

Also known as "Machida Blackwell" (derived from his hometown and family name in English) and Tatsukichi. Ran's boyfriend.

KOTOBUKI SAYO

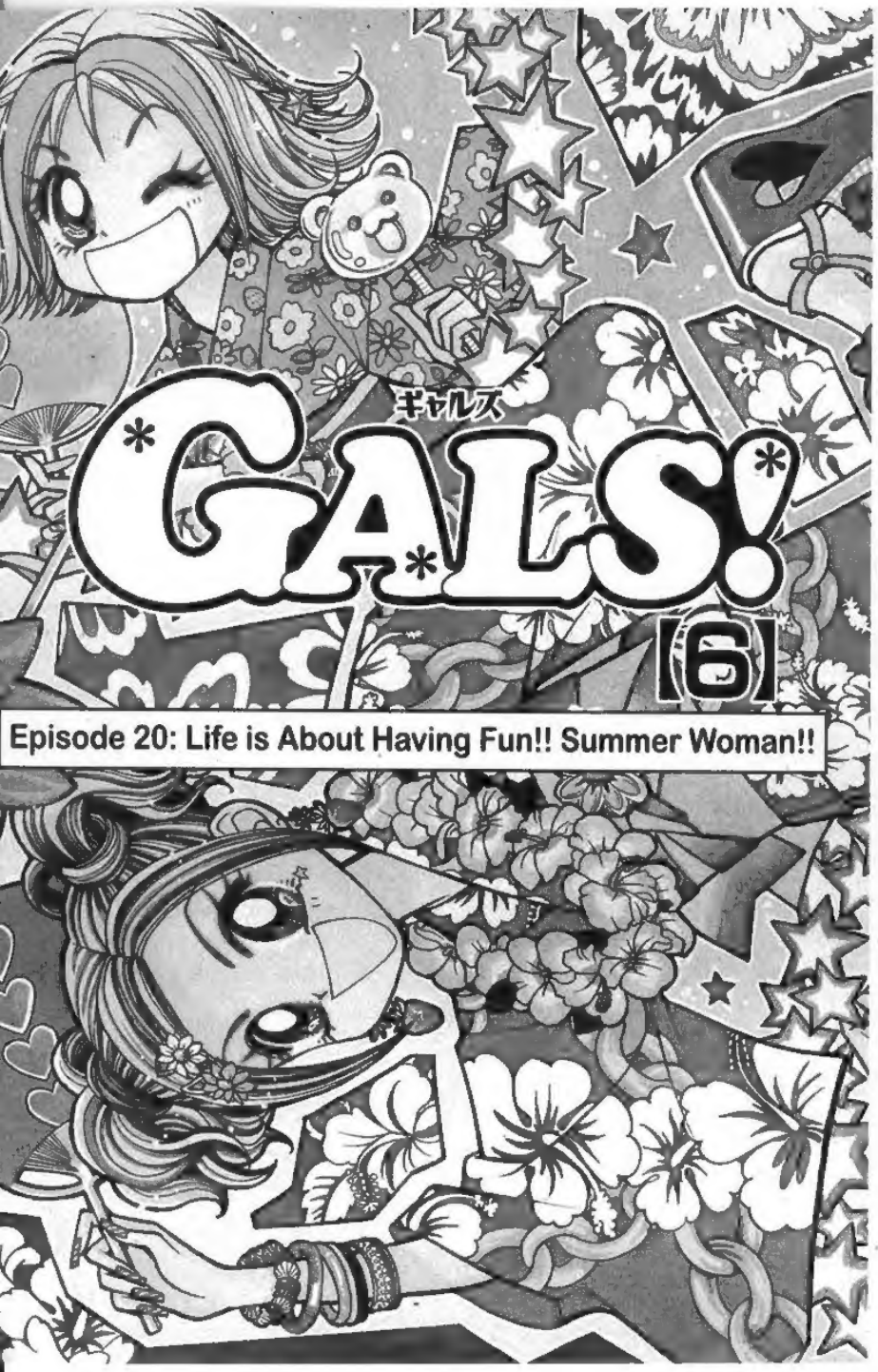
Ran's little sister. Hopes to be a police officer. With boyfriend Masato makes up the hyperactive team of "Junior High Detectives!"

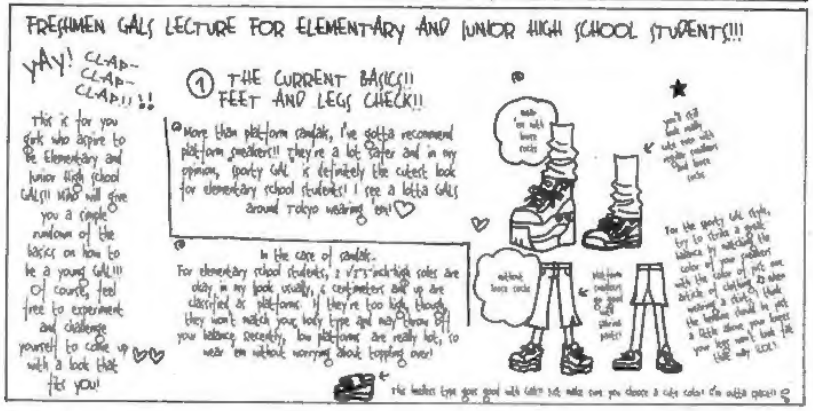
HONDA MAMI

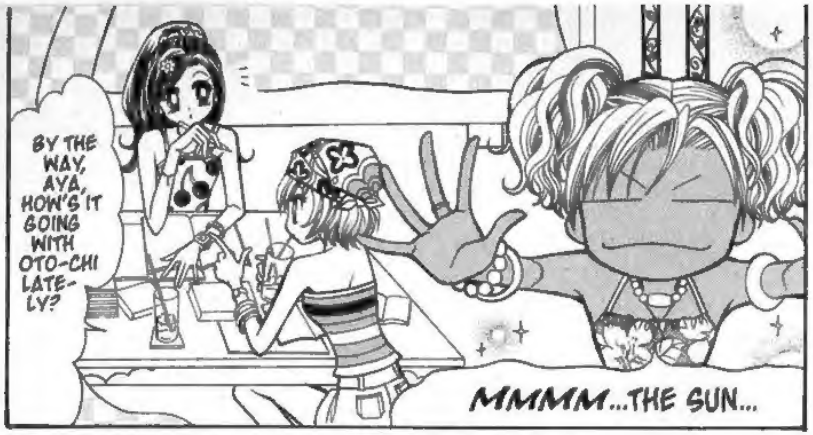
Ikebukuro *Kogal*. Rival/friend of Ran. Currently dating Yuya.

KOTOBUKI YAMATO

Ran's older brother. Police officer stationed at the police box in Shibuya.


ギャルズ
*GA*LS!*
[6]
Episode 20: Life is About Having Fun!! Summer Woman!!


FRESHMEN GALS LECTURE FOR ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!!!
yAY! CLAP-CLAP-CLAP!!
THE CURRENT BASICS!! FEET AND LEGS CHECK!!
This is for you girls who aspire to be Elementary and Junior High school GALS!! Mine will give you a simple rundown of the basics on how to be a young GAL!!! Of course, feel free to experiment and challenge yourself to come up with a look that fits you!
More than platform sandals, I've gotta recommend platform sneakers!! They're a lot safer and in my opinion, sporty GAL is definitely the cutest look for elementary school students! I see a lotta GALS around Tokyo wearing 'em!♡
In the case of sandals... For elementary school students, 2 1/2"-inch high soles are okay, in my book usually, 4 centimeters and up are classified as platforms. If they're too high though, they won't match your body type and may throw off your balance. Secondly, low platforms are really hot, to wear 'em without worrying about tripping over!
For the sporty GAL style, try to strike a great balance by watching the color of your sneakers with the color of pants and article of clothing to where a stark contrast is not the issue. Think without a doubt, is not the issue. Think without a doubt, is not the issue. Think without a doubt,


BY THE WAY, AYA, HOW'S IT GOING WITH OTO-CHI LATE-LY?
MMMM...THE SUN...

SUNSHINE!!
HUH. REALLY? I GUESS WE'RE IN THE SAME BOAT. YAMATO-KUN IS REALLY BUSY THESE DAYS, TOO.
ACTUALLY, BETWEEN MY PREP SCHOOL AND HIS PART-TIME NIGHT JOB, WE HARDLY EVER HAVE TIME TO SEE EACH OTHER...
MUST BE NICE TO LIVE WITHOUT A CARE IN THE WORLD...
HEY, HEY, WHAT'S THE PROB-LEM THERE?!
COME AN' GET ME, SUN!!!

DON'T YOU THINK I'M STARTING TO LOSE MY TAN?
LOOK AT ME, WILLYA?
THAT'S BAD! I'M SUPPOSED TO BE KOTOBUKI RAN, SUMMER WOMAN!
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO A TANNING SALON?
ANY TANNER AND YOUR SKIN'S GONNA ITCH!
A-CHOO!!
AND THEN CHECK THIS OUT!! I GOT NEW PERFUME!! HERE, SMELL!!
FSST
RAN... HOME-WORK! HOME-WORK!

I'M GETTING THE IDEA THAT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD A STUDY SESSION AT THE KOTOBUKI HOUSE...
.....
SWISH
'CAUSE I HAVEN'T GOT A YEN TO MY NAME!!
SO, COME ON, SUN!!!

PLOW, PLOW, PLOW, PLOW
♫
.....
SE-RIOUS-LY?! THAT'S MY BOY-FRIEND! JUST PLOW RIGHT THROUGH IT!!
.....
WHAT'S WRONG ?
GIRL WON'T LISTEN TO REA-SON...
PFFT! WHAT DO I CARE IF I LEARN OR NOT ?!?
NUMBER TWO, COME BACK!!!
ALRIGHT!! IF YOU'RE GONNA GO THAT FAR, I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT FOR YOU!!!
TWO OF A KIND ...
OH, MY GOD!! JUST LIKE ME!!!
LOOKING AT MATH AND SYM-BOLS AND STUFF MAKES ME SLEEPY... MMM, GOOD-NIGHT...
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY, RAN-PYON...

LUCKY STRIKE
WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT? DO IT YOUR-SELF!
YOUR HOME-WORK?
HAH?
OH, DON'T BE SO COLD!!! NUMBER TWO WOULD DO IT, NO QUESTIONS ASKED!!
WELL, UNFOR-TUNATELY FOR YOU, I'M NOT YUYA.
RAN, YOU'RE GOING ABOUT IT ALL WRONG! IF SOME-BODY ELSE DOES IT FOR YOU, YOU WON'T LEARN A THING!

WHAT'S NEW WITH MIHONA

Hi again!! It's me, Mihona-chi. Sshhh...I was just painting the nails of my left hand when I thought it wasn't worth the effort, so I stopped (LOL). And now, only the fingernails of my left hand are all sparkly. Not too cool, folks. Recently, I'm really into pink and lavender♡ so I've got my nails coated with purple lamé.♡ As I'm writing this, it's the end of March and the cherry blossoms are in bloom!♡♡ The anime version of Cuties will start soon, but I still haven't seen it myself, so I'm afraid I can't give you the lowdown on it. Sorry! But I did get to go to the voice recording for episode 4, so you'll find a short report on that in the back of this book. Something to look forward to...

→NEXT.

I CAN TAKE NEXT WEDNESDAY OFF. ARE YOU FREE THAT DAY?

OF COURSE! AND EVEN IF I DID HAVE A PLAN ALREADY, I'D CANCEL FOR YOU!

I WAS THINKING ABOUT GOING TO THE BEACH, JUST YOU AND ME!

BUT IF RAN AND THEM HEAR ABOUT IT, THEY'LL WANNA GO WITH, SO MUM'S THE WORD!

OKAY! THIS IS JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME!

GROAHNN SO SLEEPY...

OTO-CHI... LEMME TAG YOU IN HERE...

FORGET IT!

...DO YOU KNOW WHAT DAY AUGUST 20TH IS?

HEH-HEH♡

AUGUST 20TH... ...820... HANIWA DAY?*

*HANIWA (埴輪) OR HANIWA ARE CLAY FIGURES THAT DECORATE SOME ANCIENT JAPANESE BURIAL MOUNDS

CLOSE!! IT'S MY BIRTHDAY!!

I'M SURE IT'LL SLIP MY MIND, SO LET'S GET THE CELEBRATING OUT OF THE WAY NOW!!

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

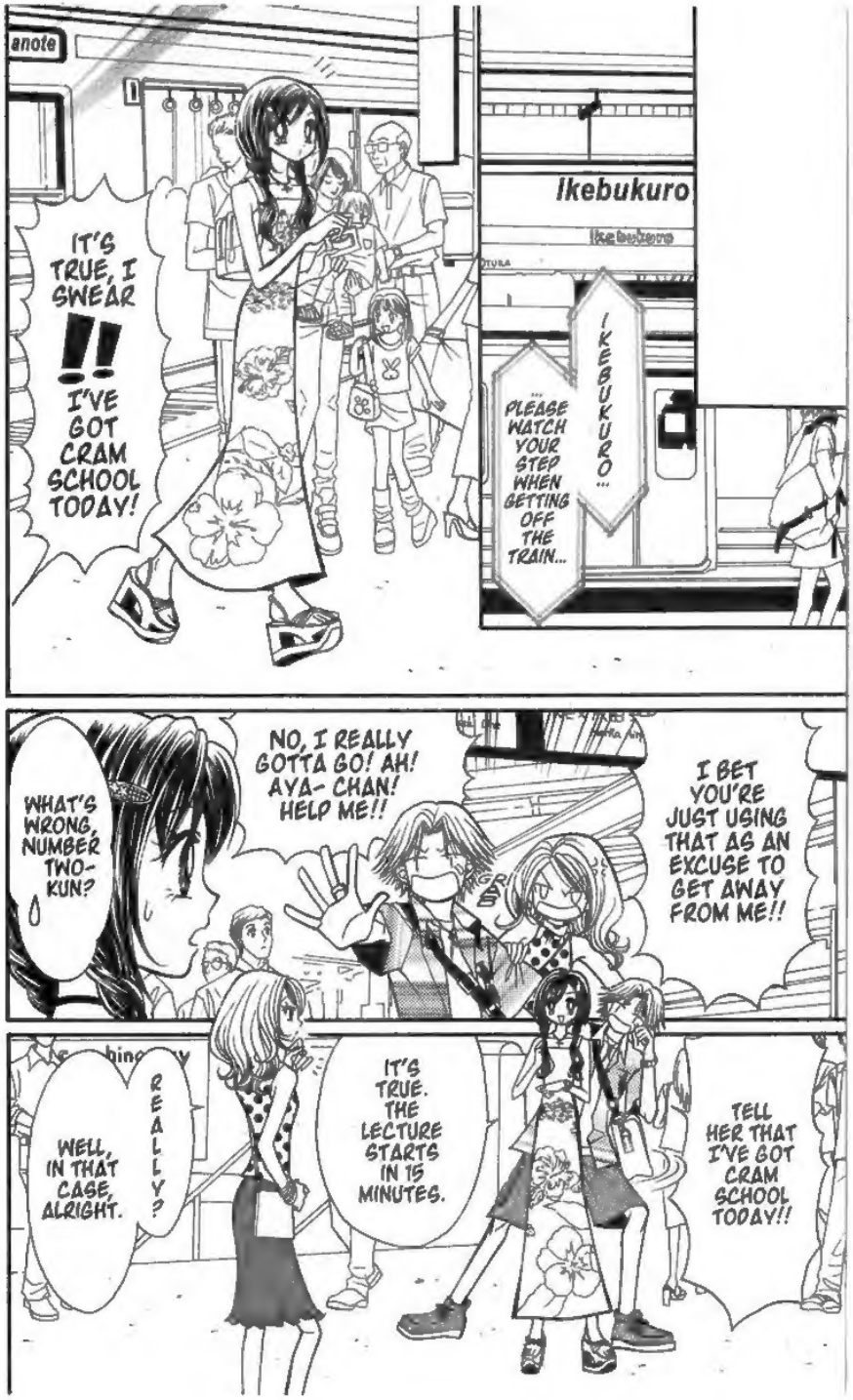
HEY!! THAT'S ALL I GET?!

MIYU, CAN I TALK TO YOU FOR A SEC?

THAT WAS CLOSE...?

I WAS BORN A SUMMER MAN, SO LET'S CELEBRATE!♪

Metropolitan Exit
SORRY...
...BUT EVERY GUY I'VE GONE OUT WITH LATELY HAS CHEATED ON ME, SO IT MAKES A GAL SUSPICIOUS, Y'KNOW?
UM... YEAH.
AS LONG AS YOU BELIEVE ME NOW!
FIDGET FIDGET
CALL ME AFTER YOUR LECTURE, OKAY?
OKAY, OKAY!
I WILL...
SHE'S SURE GOT YOU WELL TRAINED, NUMBER TWO-KUN...
UGH
IS IT THAT OBVIOUS?!
1
EPARATOR SCHOOL
WOW... YOU'RE TOGETHER NEARLY EVERY DAY?
HOW DOES THAT SIT WITH YOU?


anote
Ikebukuro
IKEBUKURO...
...PLEASE WATCH YOUR STEP WHEN GETTING OFF THE TRAIN...
IT'S TRUE, I SWEAR!! I'VE GOT CRAM SCHOOL TODAY!
I BET YOU'RE JUST USING THAT AS AN EXCUSE TO GET AWAY FROM ME!!
NO, I REALLY GOTTA GO! AH! AYA-CHAN! HELP ME!!
WHAT'S WRONG, NUMBER TWO-KUN?
TELL HER THAT I'VE GOT CRAM SCHOOL TODAY!!
IT'S TRUE. THE LECTURE STARTS IN 15 MINUTES.
REALLY?
WELL, IN THAT CASE, ALRIGHT.

...AND HE'S JUST KIND OF GOING ALONG WITH DATING ME.
SOMETIMES IT FEELS LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE WITH FEELINGS...
...HE'S NEVER TOLD ME THAT HE LIKES ME.
OTOHATA-KUN MAY BE THE SAME WAY...
HARD TO SAY.
UH... MM...
AND YOU... DO YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY ABOUT HER?
BUT... I'M TOO CHICKEN TO ASK HIM ABOUT IT.
.....
IS IT OVER?
IT'S JUST ABOUT TO START!
PI PI PI PI
BUT IT MUST BE ROUGH ON YOU...
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THE TYPE OF GUY THAT KEEPS HIS "CARDS" CLOSE TO HIS CHEST.

MAMI-RIN LOOKS LIKE SHE'S REALLY INTO YOU.
GAL POWER AMAZES ME...
...IT'S FUN, BUT I GOTTA ADMIT, THE PACE IS WEARING ME OUT A LITTLE.
WE GO FROM KARAOKE TO THE ARCADE TO A PARA-PARA EVENT...
SO, ARE YOU OVER RAN ...?
Y'KNOW ...
...IT'S KINDA STRANGE.
FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, IT'S LIKE I'VE PLAYED SECOND FIDDLE TO REI.
BUT WITH MAMI, SHE DOESN'T EVEN LOOK AT OTHER GUYS ...ONLY ME.
AND THAT FEELS... GOOD.
SHE TELLS ME STRAIGHT OUT THAT SHE REALLY LIKES ME...

THEN YOU'D FINALLY REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF MONEY...
AAAH!!
BRAIN FREEZE!!
THANKS!
I TOPPED IT OFF WITH SOME WATERMELON! ♫
YOU OUGHT TO FIND YOURSELF A STEADY PART-TIME JOB AND LEARN THE JOYS OF LABOR!
ORANGE!
HOW ABOUT YOU, SIS? MELON?
CRUNCH CRUNCH
DACHUUU
SUMMER JUST ISN'T SUMMER WITHOUT SHAVED ICE! YUM!
OH-AH, REMEMBER YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE...
SWISH
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME ?!?
SIGHH ...I WANNA GO TO THE BEACH!
BEACH BEACH BEACH...
WHAT'S THE POINT OF SUMMER VACATION IF I CAN'T HAVE FUN?!
TCH! A PART-TIME JOB...
BEACH338

WHAAT?!
YOU JUST GOT YOUR ALLOWANCE AND IT'S ALREADY GONE ?!?
I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS! WHEN I SAY NO, IT'S NO!!
IF I LOSE MY TAN BECAUSE I CAN'T GO TO THE BEACH, IT'S ON YOUR SHOULDERS, DAD!!!
THE BEACH...PRETEND LIKE YOU DIDN'T HEAR HER!
I WON'T GIVE YOU A YEN UNTIL YOUR ALLOWANCE NEXT MONTH ...AND THAT'S FINAL!!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE WORD "SAVING" MEANS?!
OF COURSE I'M GONNA USE IT ALL UP IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!!
WHAT CAN I SAY?! IT'S SUMMER VACATION!!!
STRAWBERRY FOR ME?
GREEN TEA AND AZUKI BEAN!
SO, BRO, WHAT FLAVOR SYRUP DO YOU WANT?

NOPE.
I'VE GOTTA WORK ...
OH...
...THEN MAYBE I WON'T GO AFTER ALL...
.....
Y'KNOW, I WISH...
...YOU WOULD QUIT THIS "GOING WITH THE CROWD" STUFF.
DON'T YOU HAVE A PERSONALITY OF YOUR OWN?
WHAT...?

HEY!!!
***
COOL! STARTING TOMORROW, YOU'RE GONNA WORK AT THE SNACK SHOP AT THE BEACH?
EXCELLENT! TOMORROW, I'LL GO WITH TO KEEP YOU COMPANY!
IT SHOULD BE AWESOME!!
BEST PART IS, AFTER I FINISH WORKING, I CAN HANG OUT AT THE BEACH ♫ AND CATCH SOME RAYS!
YEAH, I WAS TOTALLY SHOCKED BY HOW EASY IT WAS TO SNAG THE JOB!
ME, TOO!
DON'T YOU HAVE CRAM SCHOOL TOMORROW?
YEAH... BUT I WANNA GO TO THE BEACH WITH EVERYBODY!
HOW ABOUT YOU, OTOHATA-KUN?

Anyway, these days on my research treks to Shibuya, I've been noticing a huge increase in sporty cars!!! As you might expect, sporty cars are full of pep and are way colorful!!! They totally stand out in the best way possible♡ Last time I was wandering around in the Maru 9 department store, I came across this totally cute group of four sporty cars who all had matching bags! I mean, I was stunned (hopefully they didn't notice) at how they epitomized the sporty car ideal!! (LOL) It struck me then that you'll have all the time in the world to wear adult clothes when you're an adult, so while you're still young, you should seize the day and wear all the outfits that only young people can get away with!!! Or something like that. The reason that came to mind is I've been getting lotsa letters from girls who are interested in wearing eye-catching and matching Kartype outfits so I say to them now, wear the most eye-catchiest clothes you can find!!! I say the obvious but you'll have no problem in Shibuya, where even elementary school and junior high school students walk around wearing splashy clothes!

→NEXT.

OTO-CHI, YOU'RE TOO HARD ON HER, MAN!
DON'T TRY AND TURN IT AROUND ON ME.
OTOHATA! HEY! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT! AYA'S BEEN STUDYING HER BUNS OFF, SO SHE WANTS TO TAKE A BREAK!
I'M JUST SAYING, GO OR DON'T GO, BUT YOU CHOOSE!
THAT'S ALL.
SEE YA.
AYA-PYON, ARE YOU OKAY?
.....
JEEZ, WHAT'S WITH HIM?! GOOD RIDDANCE!

I MEAN, SOMEBODY DOES SOMETHING AND SO DO YOU...
...OR YOU LOOK TO SOMEBODY ELSE FOR AN ANSWER...
...OR YOU REACT BASED ON HOW YOU THINK I FEEL...
THAT...
I-I'M SORRY...
AND IT JUST DOESN'T DO ANYTHING FOR ME.
...IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.

YEAH, TRY AN' FOCUS ON HAVIN' A BLAST AT THE BEACH!!
COME ON, CHEER UP, AYA!! HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A COOL CUSTOMER, SO THERE'S NO SENSE IN LETTING IT GET TO YOU NOW!!
HEH-HEH!!
MAYBE I SHOULD BECOME A COUNSELOR!!
YOU CHARMER, YOU!
YOU GOT A REAL WAY WITH WORDS, FOR A KEPT MAN!
OYA HA HA HA!!
THAT'S SO STUPID IT'S HILARIOUS!!!
OR AM I BARKING UP THE WRONG TREE?!
ACTUALLY, THE EXPRESSION IS "MAKE LIKE A TREE AND LEAVE."

I NEVER HAVE CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF.
HE WAS RIGHT.
IT'S OKAY.
YEAH!
SHOW 'IM THE TIGER INSIDE!
HE NEVER SAID HE DIDN'T LIKE YOU!
HE JUST MEANT YOU GOTTA BE A LITTLE MORE ASSERTIVE!
HEY, NOW!!
RIGHT THERE, THAT TELLS YOU YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO HIM, RIGHT?
LOOK, IF HE DIDN'T CARE ABOUT YOU, HE WOULDN'T GO TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF GIVING YOU A LECTURE!
IF HE WOULD JUST SAY THAT...I WOULD... I WOULD HAVE TO.
...WHY DOESN'T HE SAY, "LET'S BREAK UP?"
...IF HE DOESN'T LIKE ME...
BUT THEN, WHY... IF I DON'T "DO ANYTHING FOR HIM..."

WHAT A COINCIDENCE!!!
BUY SOME CORN ON THE COB, OKAY?!? 300 YEN APIECE!
RAN GRILLED 'EM HERSELF, SO THEY'RE A LITTLE ON THE CHARCOAL-Y SIDE...
BEACH
TOTALLY YUMMY!
CORN ON THE COB, ONLY 300 YEN!

A PARTNER FOR THE BEACH VOLLEYBALL MATCH! I KNOW WE'LL MAKE A GREAT TEAM!!!
WHY ME ?!
TATSU-KICHI-KUN, WAIT A SEC-OND!

WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?! DON'T TELL ME THAT PART-TIME JOB YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT...
EXACTLY! AT THE BEACH SNACK SHOP!!
I'M JUST HERE FOR FUN!

WHO'S UP FOR SCRUM-DILLY CORN ON THE COB?!?
RAN'S BROTHER!! I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE HERE!
W-WHAT DO YOU WANT ?!
CLAP

YAMATO-KUN! YAMATO-KUN!
HOW ABOUT A RACE TO THAT BUOY ?!
THIS YEAR, I WANNA MASTER BODY-BOARD-♡ING!
THEN I'LL BE HAPPY TO TEACH YOU!
KYAA
HEY YOU GUYS !
WAIT, FIRST I GOTTA OIL UP!
DRIP
SHE IS SO CUTE...
I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE HAD A DATE WITH JUST THE TWO OF US...
...LAST YEAR, RAN AND HER FRIENDS ALL HAD TO TAG ALONG...

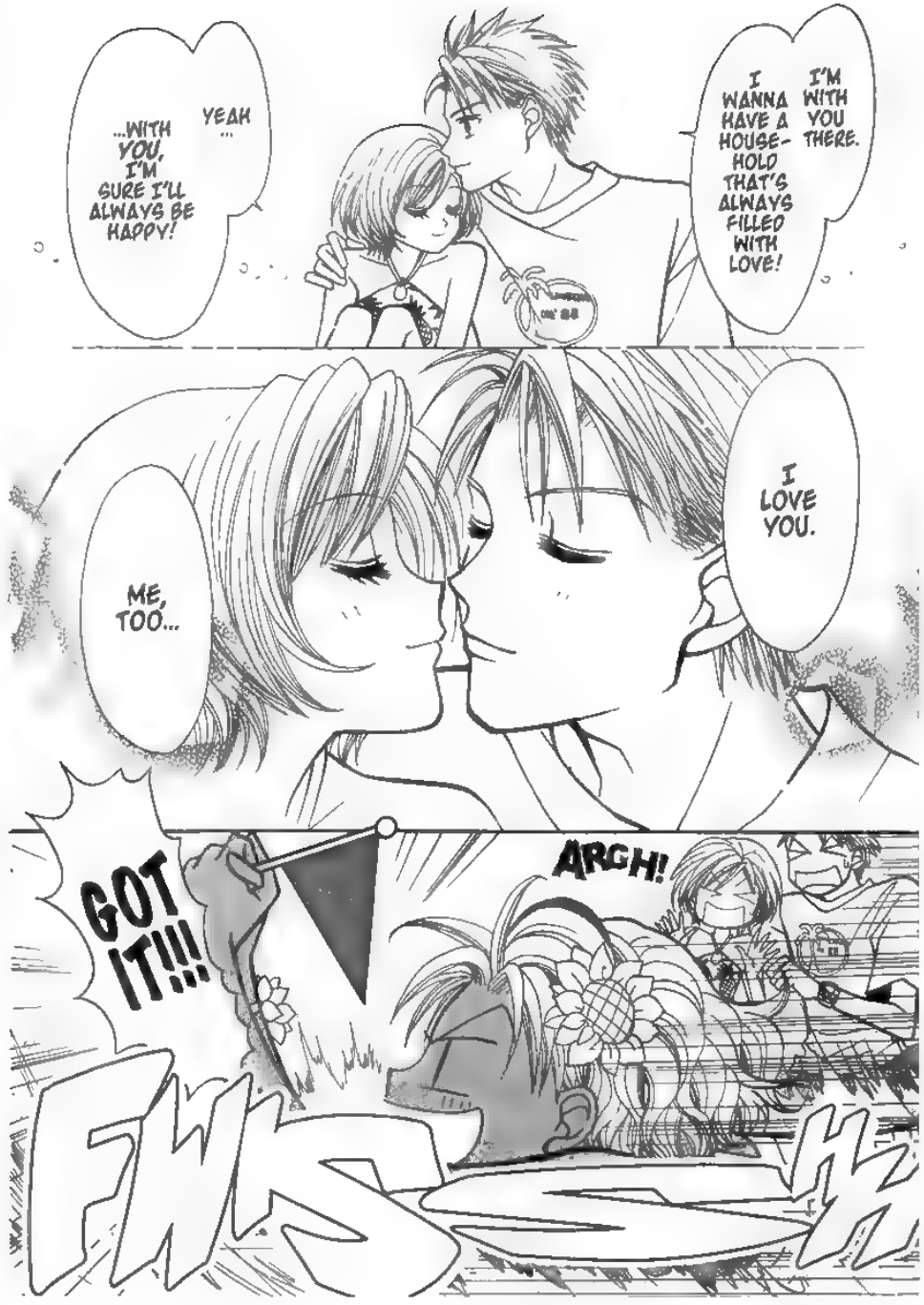
YEP. GIVEN THE CHANCE, MY BRO CAN BE THE REAL SPORTS-MAN.
YAMATO-KUN'S GETTING INTO IT AFTER ALL...
FLAP FLAP
SIGHHH
COMBINATION BLOCK!!
OOH!
WAAAAA
HM?!
MOMMY!
MMM. I REALLY FEEL SORRY FOR HER. I MEAN, NOT EVEN BEING ABLE TO GO ON A DATE DURING SUMMER VACATION?!
ENOSHIMA
BY THE WAY, WHERE'S AYA?
AH. SEEMS LIKE THINGS AREN'T GOING TOO WELL WITH HER AND OTOHATA. SHE SAID SHE WASN'T IN THE MOOD TO HAVE A GOOD TIME TODAY, SO IT'S OFF TO CRAM SCHOOL AS USUAL.

TWEET
WAAA! WAAA!
MIYU, WANNA BUY A JUICE? 150 YEN!
WHY DOES THIS ALWAYS HAP-PEN?!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
ME! ME! ME! WE'RE GONNA PLAY!
LAST CALL FOR PAR-TIC!-PANTS!
AH! WAIT!
NGGGH! SCORE!!
FIIS'SSSSS
NOT ON MY WATCH!
TA-TSU-KICHI AT-TACK!!!

LUCKY WE FOUND THEIR MOTHERS SO QUICKLY!
BUT I WAS SURPRISED HOW FAST THAT LITTLE BOY STOPPED CRYING ONCE YOU PICKED HIM UP, YAMATO-KUN!
CRAP!
AH! THE CORN'S BURNING AGAIN!!
FWAP FWAP
YEAH, ME TOO! MY DREAM IS TO WEAR MATCHING OUTFITS WITH MY OWN KID!
WELL, I'VE ALWAYS LOVED KIDS.
...SO THERE'S NO WAY I'LL EVER LET MY OWN CHILD FEEL LONELY!
WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I WAS ALWAYS AT HOME, ALONE...

THERE'S A CENTER FOR LOST KIDS THAT WAY...
OHMY-GOSH! IS THIS THE CHILD?
YEKKOM
SOB SOB
WAAAAA
MAMA!
AWAWA! WE'VE GOT ANOTHER ONE OVER HERE!
HE MUST BE LOST!
SOB SOB SOB SOB
WHAT THE--?! KID, I AM NOT YOUR MOMMY!!
WHAT?!
TAVERN
(THE BOILING BLOOD OF A POLICE OFFICER.)
SIZZLE SIZZLE
MR. POLICE-MAN, WE HAVE A LOST CHILD HERE!!!
THEY'RE DOMESTICATED ALREADY...
HEY, BIG BOYS DON'T CRY! AND DON'T WORRY, WE'LL FIND YOUR MOTHER!
IT'S OKAY! IT'S OKAY!
SOB
SHIT SHIT
.....
HEY, IT'S OKAY! WE'LL HELP YOU!
THERE, THERE!

YAY!!
TA-TSU-KICHI DRINKS THE VEGGIE JUICE !!!
COME ON, RAN, 'FESS UP! IF YOU CAN RUN FASTER THAN ME, YOU CAN'T BE HUMAN!!
HUFF HUFF
.....
OOPS!! HAVE WE JUST INTER-RUPTED SOME-THING HERE?!
SORRY, GUYS! I'LL DRINK THE VEG-ETABLE JUICE FOR ATONE-MENT!
HEH!
.....
DRINK UP!
GROSS!! ALMOST DONE!!
SEEMS TO BE PART OF THE ROUTINE ...SIGH...
I GUESS I'M USED TO GETTING INTER-RUPTED
KIAR
YAHOO!!
WITH MY PART-TIME PAY, I BOUGHT ME SOME MEGA-CUTE SABRINA PANTS!!


I'M WITH YOU THERE.
I WANNA HAVE A HOUSE-HOLD THAT'S ALWAYS FILLED WITH LOVE!
YEAH ...
...WITH YOU, I'M SURE I'LL ALWAYS BE HAPPY!
I LOVE YOU.
ME, TOO...
ARGH!
GOT IT!!!
FWIP

Recently, I bought three 90 cute knee-high skirts, two sleeveless knit sweaters, a long denim skirt, a logo T-shirt, a pink shirt, two hats and a pair of spring sandals!♡ (For some reason, my clothing purchases have become a regular part of this column (LOL) right now, I wanna get a jean jacket that fits me just right.♡♡♡ And speaking of what's new, I was a guest at the Tokyo Toy Show at Big Site but I had no idea sooo many Ribon Girls would come out to see me, so I was thrilled!! Thanks!♡♡ As usual, my speech was probably too casual (LOL) at the event, but at least I openly admitted it to the people there (LOL) (Can I get away with talking rough if I do that?) I was at the Tomy booth, which was a ton of fun because there were so many toys!♡♡ I played games with my editor, Tomi-chi! (LOL) Anyway, everyone who came to the event, thank you!♡

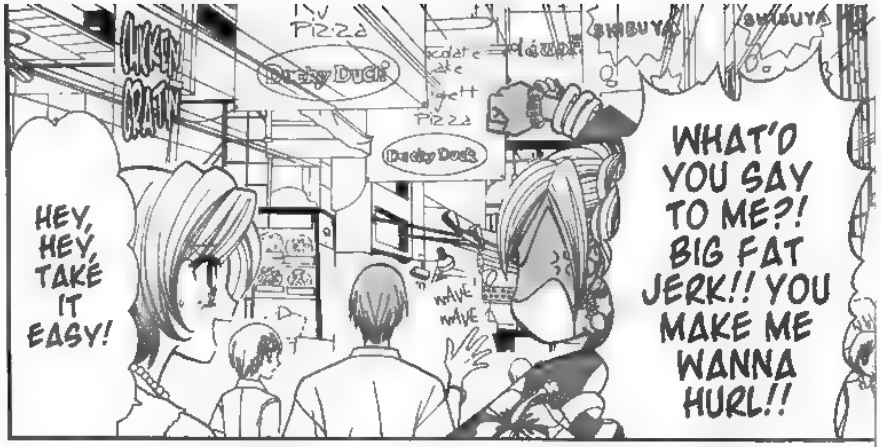
→ >>NEXT

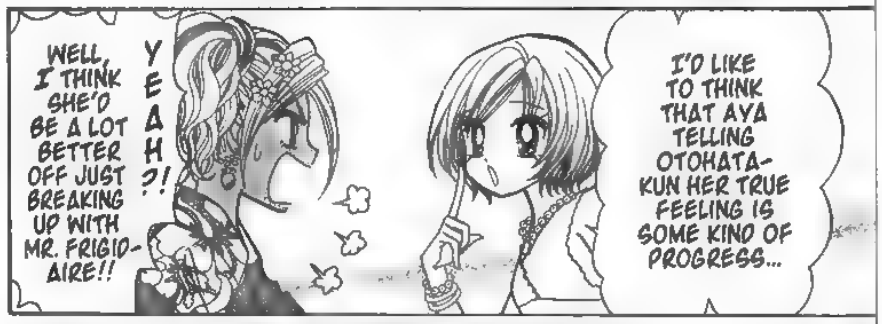
DANCING MONKEY
?
PLOP
I'M SORRY! YOU DIDN'T WIN THE TRIP TO HAWAII... BUT YOU DO GET THIS DANCING MONKEY!
YO!
I DON'T NEED THIS CHEAP PIECE O' JUNK!
THAT GOOD, HUH?
IT'S BEEN WHAT, FOUR DAYS?
HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
OTO-HATA-KUN...

TODAY'S TATSU-KICHI-KUN'S BIRTH-DAY!
BUYING A PRESENT
?
YOU DID FORGET...
AH!
WE EXCHANGE CELL PHONES!!
OF COURSE YOU SET ASIDE SOME MONEY FOR BUYING A PRESENT, RIGHT?
...AH, WELL, EASY COME, EASY GO! ♪
WHICH LEAVES ME BROKE AGAIN...
FIRST PRIZE IS A TRIP TO FABULOUS HAWAII!! SO TAKE A DEEP BREATH, CROSS YOUR FINGERS... ...AND SPIN THIS BABY
ME! ME! ME! I BOUGHT THIS!!! LOOK, I'VE GOT THE RECEIPT!!!
SHIBUYA CENTER LOTTERY! ANYONE WHO'S MADE A PURCHASE AT SHIBUYA CENTER CAN GIVE IT A SPIN!
IT COMPLETELY SLIPPED MY MIND!
AHHHHHHH!
SPINSPINSPIN
THAT'S... SPINNING IT A LITTLE TOO MUCH!!
HAWAII! HAWAII! HAWAII!

SHE WENT THAT-A-WAY!!!
NAH, I'M NOT UP FOR A CHASE SCENE...
AFTER HER, OTO-CHI !!!
.....
THERE MAY BE A COUPLE POINTS ABOUT HER YOU FIND ANNOYING, BUT AT HEART, YOU REALLY LIKE HER, DON'CHA ?!
WHAT?! WHY?!
THEN DON'T BOTHER OPENING YOUR BIG MOUTH IN THE FIRST PLACE!
WHAT DO I THINK ...? I'M NO MIND-READER!
GOOD QUES-TION.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
...AREN'T REASONS TO GO OUT WITH SOME-ONE!
...SYM-PATHY OR SOME SENSE OF OBLIGA-TION...
BUT... THE ONLY THING I'VE GOT THE GUTS TO SAY RIGHT NOW IS THAT...
I'VE... DONE A LOT OF THINKING SINCE WE LAST TALKED.
H-HEY! AYA ?!

THEY TOOK ME TO MEXICO FOR TRAINING, BUT WE WERE SUDDENLY ATTACKED BY A CACTUS!
...SHAKING MY MARACAS IN SHIBUYA, WHEN I WAS SCOUTED OUT BY THIS MEXICAN MAMBO BAND!
NO, SERIOUSLY! SO THERE I WAS...
109
I GOT PRICKED BY ONE OF ITS THORNS AND FELL INTO A WEEKS-LONG COMA, WHICH IS WHY I COULDN'T FINISH MORE THAN HALF OF MY SUMMER HOMEWORK! OYOY, YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE WHAT I WENT THR--
CACTI DO NOT WALK, LET ALONE ATTACK!!!
WHAP
FOR KOTOSUKI
ACK!!




WELL, I THINK SHE'D BE A LOT BETTER OFF JUST BREAKING UP WITH MR. FRIGIDAIRE!!
YEAH?!
I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT AYA TELLING OTOHATA-KUN HER TRUE FEELING IS SOME KIND OF PROGRESS...

...FOR WHICH IT IS INCREDIBLY SIMPLE, MIYU THOUGHT TO HERSELF.
I'M SORRY, TATSUKICHI...
SERIOUSLY ?!? YOU USED YOUR PART-TIME JOB MONEY TO BUY ME A PRESENT?!? I'M TOUCHED!! AND IT'S A MONKEY!!
THERE'S ONLY ONE COUPLE ...

Episode 20: The End

GALS!
Episode 21: GALS-style:
Two in Love and
Two Broken Up?!

RATTLE RATTLE
WANNA SEE?!
BUT THAT BIT ABOUT IM-PROVING MY MAMBO IS THE REAL DEAL!!
MMM... GOING BY THE IMPACT OF THE STORY, I'LL GIVE IT A 65.
YOU'VE HEARD MY STORIES ABOUT BEING KID-NAPPED BY ALIENS, ABOUT RUNNING WITH THE BULLS IN SPAIN.. AND NOW, THE MEXICAN CACTUS ATTACK. HOW MANY POINTS THIS TIME?
NOW GET OFF THE DESK !!
NO !!
SWISH SWISH
AL-RIGHT! I WAS TOO BUSY OUT HAVING FUN!!!
WHAT AM I SAYING ?! I WANT YOU TO TELL ME THE REAL REASON !!!

FRESHMEN GALS LECTURE FOR ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!!!
(2) Coordinating basics!! As you might've guessed, baggy clothes don't work for talk. Get clothes that fit your style and fit you perfectly
FOR BODY WE!
Other coordinating stuff, one thing you don't have to think about is accessories. young girls are too proud for that's what it all does come down to is color and design!
At least as you're starting out to mix two different designs the matching combined checkered was something that has a flower pattern, for instance, you should be fine. you want to accent with a top with stripes. Leggings, to don't like them, you think by wearing a short that barely covers your butt.

Spotlight!!
DISSECTION OF A BLOODBATH!!
Again, apologies for drawing this freehand!!!
2001 Spring Breeze Edition
Mommy always gets totally wicked hay fever come spring
BUHAA!!
GOOD THING I'M FINE! IF WE BOTH HAD HAY FEVER WE WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE OF MAK-ING THIS MONTH'S DEAD-LINE!!
Deadline Day
HONK
(SHE GOES THROUGH ONE BOX OF TISSUES A DAY)
UGH... SPRING SUCKS! OOH...
HAH!! DON'T COUNT ME OUT JUST YET!! I'M NOT GONNA LET A LITTLE THING LIKE HAY FEVER BEAT ME!! HEH-HEH!!
WIRED FROM A COMBINATION OF HAY FEVER MEDICINE COFFEE AND LACK OF SLEEP
BUT DON'T WORRY! I'LL STEP UP THIS TIME !!!
HAHAHAH
Moreover, it makes her sneeze like nothing that's ever come out of a human before.
DESPERATELY TRYING TO KEEP THE MANUSCRIPT FROM GETTING DIRTY
JUGHAA!
QUIT WITH THE DISGUST-ING SNEEZES AL-READY

→ Continues in Bloodbath 2

KYO--
KYO-UTOU-SEN-SEI?!*
OUR SCHOOL FES-TIVALS ARE TOO DULL.
HARDLY ANYONE FROM OTHER SCHOOLS JOIN IN.
*VICE-PRINCIPAL

SURE! I LEAD THE OTHER HOUNAN HIGH MEMBERS IN SINGING STIRRING CHORUSES OF JAPANESE MUSICAL COMPOSITIONS (KARAOKE) AND WE DO JAPANESE DANCING (PARA-PARA), THAT KIND OF THING...
HUM! WELL, IT CERTAINLY SOUNDS AS IF YOUR ACTIVITIES HAVE REAL EDUCA-TIONAL VALUE!

AWAWA!! YOU DON'T SPEAK TO THE VICE-PRINCIPAL THAT WAY!!
KEAD KEAD
YOU KNOW... BIG! GLITZY!
FLASH
?
THAT'S A CRYIN' SHAME, DUDE! THE SCHOOL FEST'S GOTTA HAVE MORE FLASH, Y'KNOW ?!

SHI-BUYA CLUB ?
THE SHIBUYA CLUB!!
HO-HO! WHAT CLUB ARE YOU IN, MISS?
AWAWAWAWA
MAN, IF YOU GAVE ME THE REINS, I'D BRING ON A FEST THAT'D ROCK THE HOUSE!

SORRY!! THIS FALL, THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE A SPORTS FESTIVAL. WE'RE HAVING JUST A REGULAR SCHOOL FESTIVAL INSTEAD! TOO BAD!
HOW ABOUT IF I GUARANTEE OUR CLASS WINS AGAIN AT THIS YEAR'S SPORTS FESTIVAL ?!
AH!
ALL RIGHT, WHAT AM I GONNA HAVE TO DO TO GET OFF THE HOOK?
WAG WAG

THE FESTIVAL ISN'T THE PROBLEM HERE!!
HMMM...
WELL, WHY NOT COME UP WITH SOME COM-PETITIVE EVENTS ?!

...THAT'S A SPLEN-DIO IDEA!
AC-TUALLY ...

AT OUR SCHOOL FESTIVAL, THERE AREN'T ANY COM-PETITIVE EVENTS! SO NYAAH!
AH!! SPARE ME THE SARCASM!! LOOK, I'LL GET US FIRST PRIZE AT THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL THEN!!
Vice Principal
GRR-
TELL ME ABOUT IT...
IT'S JUST LIKE TWO KIDS FIGHT-ING...

AFRO
WE'VE GOT SOME AYA COMIN' UP!!!
BUT WHAT KIND OF EVENTS ARE WE GONNA HAVE?
SO THAT'S WHY SHE CALLED US HERE!
BY THE WAY, EVERY-ONE IN SHIBUYA CLUB IS ON THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL COM-MITTEE!
IF I CAN GET AWAY WITH BLOWING OFF MY HOME-WORK, I'LL DO ANY-THING!
PARA-PARA DANCING !!!
GRILLED MEAT SPEED-EATING CONTEST !!
I KNOW!! "WHO'S THE HOTTEST GUY?!"
GIRLS' SONG CONTEST !!!
"WHICH FOOD IS BETTER?!" SHOW!
DIS-GUSTING FOOD-EATING CONTEST!
AYA HERE HASN'T EVEN SUNG ONE SONG YET!
RAN, HOLD IT RIGHT THERE! QUIT HOGGING THE MIC!!
"GOOFIEST COUPLE?" RAN, YOU AND I ARE SHOO-ING FOR THAT!
AH!! NEXT I'M GONNA SING KOYA-NAGI YUKI!
I ALSO WANNA HAVE, LIKE, A "GOOFIEST COUPLES" TOUR-NAMENT!

KYO... KYOUTOU-SENSEI...
YOU GOT IT!!
I WANT YOU TO MAKE OUR SCHOOL'S FESTIVAL KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE LAND!!
FRET FRET
THERE! IT'S DONE !!!
WHAT?!
NAKANISHI-SENSEI CAN BE MY FACULTY ADVISER!!!
THEN GIVE ME THE GREEN LIGHT, BOSS !!
THUMP
KARAOKE
Shibuya Center Street
EVEN BETTER THAN BEFORE
RAN'S A CHAIR-WOMAN! THAT'S SO COOL!
YOU'RE THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL COM-MITTEE CHAIR-WOMAN ?!
WHAAAAT?!

♪CHARARA RAA♫
AAH!! SHE'S CRYING! AYA-PE-SENPAI!
BAFFLE
I CHASED AFTER YOU...
SOB SOB
YOU SHOULON'T BE BRINGING EVERYONE DOWN WITH A TEARJERKER AT YOUR AGE!!
AFTER YOU BREAK UP WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND, THERE'S, LIKE, A HOLE IN YOUR HEART...
THEY SAY IT'S ALWAYS DARKEST BEFORE THE DAWN...
Silence
YEAH, BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, THE SONG TELLS IT LIKE IT IS...I TOTALLY RELATE...
HEY, DUMMIES! DON'T LET YOURSELVES GET SUCKED INTO A LONELY, BLUESY MOOD !!!
MY LIFE...GOES TO THE EDGE OF A CLIFF...THIS IS MY ROAD...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ADD THE "KINDA!"
HEH!
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE GALS, WE'RE STILL GIRLS, KINDA.
I WANNA MEET HIM...
...BUT I CAN'T!
SINCE THAT LAST TIME, HE HASN'T CALLED ME.
HE...HE MUST'VE DUMPED ME AFTER ALL...

OH, MY GOD!! THE GIRL'S GOT A BAD CASE OF OTO-HATA !!
THAT'S ALRIGHT...I'M NOT REALLY IN THE MERRYMAKING MOOD...
C'MON, LET'S HEAR YOU BELT ONE OUT!!
I'M TELLIN' YOU, FORGET THAT ICEMAN!
'CAUSE HE'S COLD
ICE-MAN?
♪CHA-RARARAA PYU-RURI-RURU♫
HALF OF MY LIFE...THERE'VE BEEN MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS...
I'M GONNA SING "A WOMAN'S LONE JOURNEY."
TOO GLOOMY !!!
GONG!!
ACK! WHAT A DOWNER !!!
YAY!! CHEER UP, AYA-PE-SENPAI!
WELL, OKAY! JUST ONE SONG.
RATTLE RATTLE
YEAH! YEAH! THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

YOU'VE GOT TWO PART-TIME JOBS?!
REALLY?
I GUESS SOMETIMES JUST "LIKING" SOMETHING IS ROUGH, HUH?
...BUT MY OJ GIG IS SOMETHING I DO 'CAUSE I WANNA DO IT. THE PAY DOESN'T AMOUNT TO ANYTHING.
WELL, YEAH...
HAH?!
WHAT'RE THEY ALL GAWKING AT?
MM?

OKAY...
...THANK YOU!
RAN-SENPAI, YOU'RE AWESOME !!
AS IF I DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH TO DO...
CLAP CLAP CLAP
SOB SOB

HEY, AS I RECALL, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO ENDED THE LAST CONVERSATION WITH SOMETHING LIKE, "YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO OUT WITH ME," SO...
THAT'S WHAT I REALLY FELT!
BUT SINCE HE HASN'T CALLED ME TO TALK IT OVER... I GUESS THAT REALLY DOES MEAN WE'RE THROUGH!
SNIFF SNIFF
BUT Y'KNOW, I DON'T THINK OTO-CHI'S THE TYPE OF GUY THAT CALLS TO PATCH THINGS UP ANYWAY.
RIGHT! HE'S GOT THAT ARROGANT "IF SHE RUNS AWAY, I'M NOT GONNA CHASE 'ER" THING GOIN'!
SO, TO FIND OUT HOW HE REALLY FEELS, THE FIRST THING YOU GOTTA DO IS MEET HIM! SOMEHOW, I'LL ARRANGE IT SO THAT HE COMES TO THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL!
THAT'LL BE THE EASIEST WAY TO GET YOU TWO TOGETHER!

Y-YEAH, OKAY...
THERE'LL BE ALL KINDS OF EVENTS, SO MAKE SURE YOU BRING MAMI-RIN, TOO!
HOUNAN HIGH SCHOOL FALL FESTIVAL!!
9/14-9/15 10:00am-1 1:00pm at Hounan High School!
If you bring this flyer to the festival...You'll get a festival fan!!
...Convenient access, even from downtown!!....
THERE!
LOOKY-LOOKY!! HOUNAN'S SCHOOL FESTIVAL AND WE'RE THE HOSTS!!
YOU GOTTA COME!!
YOU GOTTA COME!!
"IN THE MOOD," MY BUTT!
GRAB
HMPH... I'LL GO IF I'M IN THE MOOD.
AYA CRIES EVERY DAY BECAUSE OF YOU! AND YOU CALL YOURSELF HER BOY-FRIEND?!
Y'KNOW, OTO-HATA... ...IF YOU CAN'T MAKE JUST ONE GIRL HAPPY, YOU'RE A WASHOUT AS A MAN!

HEY, AREN'T YOU THE GIRL WHO WON THE QUEEN CONTEST LAST YEAR AT OUR ♡ SCHOOL FEST?
OUR FEST IS THE BEST! ♪
HOUNAN HIGH SCHOOL'S FESTIVAL!! COME ONE, COME ALL!
DO YOU HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?!
SHE'S SO CUTE...
I THOUGHT THAT IF I HUNG OUT AROUND HERE, I'D CATCH YOU SOONER OR LATER!
AH! OTOHATA!
Bingo!
TCH! SHE'S OTO-HATA'S GIRL-FRIEND?!
NOT EVEN CLOSE, STUPE!
SO I'M COUNTING ON SEEING YOU ALL THERE...
THERE ARE LOTSA HOT GALS AT HOUNAN!!
AC K!
HEY. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

Aii... Aiko!! I finally got my driver's license! I'm really thrilled!! Maybe elementary and junior high school students out there can't exactly grasp what it means to me, so think of it as having two science tests (I had to take two different driver's tests for a regular car) and passing both of them with one shot. Well, that's what I did (with the driver's tests, that is)♡♡ For me, this is amazing!! (LOL) Seriously, I thought, if a person applies herself, she can do it! Anyway, at the final test, I met a Gal and we encouraged each other. It went something like this:
Miho: I'm seriously in trouble here!! I think there's a good chance I'm gonna fail this thing!!
Gal-chan: Hey, it'll be no problem! Easy peasy!
Miho: No problem?! How do you figure that? ⇝
Gal-chan: Just relax and you'll pass! No sweat.
Hmm, actually, it looks like she did all the encouraging (LOL) in the end, we both passed!♡♡ I really appreciate that Gal, though, for cheering me up. When I took my final science test in high school, there were Gals in the seats in front and behind me, and we all ended up passing that time, too♡ Talk about Gal power!! Although I think I might've been the only one who was moved by it!

>>NEXT →

BAM BAM CLANK CLANK
HIGH, HIGH, HIGH! MAKE IT AS VISIBLE AS POSSIBLE!
I'M EXHAUSTED!
YOU'RE A GIRL RIGHT? SO WORK HARDER!
RAN-SAN! DO YOU WANT US TO PUT THE SIGN HIGH OR LOW?
WE STILL HAVE SOME OVER HERE!
GAH!!! I'M OUTTA NAILS!!
DID YOU SAY YOU NEEDED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FESTIVAL?
EXCUSE ME?
School Fes STUDENT VOLUNTEERS WANTED

OKAY, RAN-CHAN, OKAY! CALM DOWN!!
YOU ROTTEN SUNUVA...!!! IF YOU DON'T SHOW UP, YOU'LL REGRET IT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!!!
DON'T WORRY, RAN-CHAN! WE'LL BE THERE, ANYWAY!

AAAAH! SHE'S TAKING IT OUT ON US!!
WHAP
WHEN I WANT YOUR OPINIONS, I'LL ASK, SO ZIP IT!!!
WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO IF SHE DRIVES AWAY ALL THE CUSTOMERS?!
UH-OH!

WOULDN'T THAT BE NICE, FOR ONCE?
JUST TILL THE END OF THE FEST, WE COULD HAVE A "CEASE-FIRE" WITH EACH OTHER.
BUT WHAT ABOUT STUDYING...?
NONE OF US HAD MUCH FUN OVER SUMMER VACATION, SO I THINK OUR BRAINS COULD USE A LITTLE RELAXATION!
W-WELL, YOU ARE THE CHAIRMAN OF OUR CLASS...SO IF YOU SAY SO...
YEAH
THEN IT'S SETTLED!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT "OH, COME ON" STUFF!
OH, COME ON!
DID YOU ALL HEAR THAT? EVERYONE HERE IS GOING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR'S SCHOOL FESTIVAL!

I'M BUSY ENOUGH AS IT IS!
GIMME A BREAK!
I KNOW, BUT I'D STILL LIKE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IF YOU CAN...
YOU KNOW, THE MORE THE MERRIER...?
I'M JUST NOT INTERESTED.
AND BESIDES, I CAN MAKE MUCH BETTER USE OF MY TIME STUDYING AT HOME!
HOSHINO-SAN, WHY DON'T YOU PARTICIPATE FOR US? YOU CAN BE THE ACADEMIC TRACK CLASS REPRESENTATIVE!
AND HAVING ONE LESS RIVAL IN HERE WOULD WORK FOR US, TOO!
SNICKER
I AGREE WITH AYA.
ONCE IN A WHILE, IT'D BE GOOD TO GIVE OUR COMPETITIVE STREAKS A REST AND JUST LET OUR HAIR DOWN.
KATASE-KUN!

RAN-SAN! THE STAGE IS ALL SET UP!
DO YOU SEE ANYTHING MISSING?
WE PASSED OUT ALL THE FLYERS!
IT'S TOO HOT!
PUFF
NOW WHAT?
MMM...
HIBIS-CUSES!! WE NEED HIBIS-CUSES!!
...IN-SPIRA-TION JUST STRUCK!!!
NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IMPOSSIBLE!
YOU WANT US TO MAKE 'EM NOW?!
IT'S LIKE THE GALS' OFFICIAL FLOWER!!
NOT EVEN CLOSE!
EVENT☆STAGE

?
...?

THIS IS GONNA BE A PAIN!
IF WE DON'T SHOW UP THERE, DO WE GET MARKED ABSENT?
KYA HA HA!
FINE, BUT NOBODY BETTER STUDY SECRETLY AT HOME!
HEY, DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA.
THIS REALLY HELPS US OUT A LOT!
TH-THANK YOU!
...WAS BECAUSE I WANTED TO HELP YOU, AYA-SAN.
THE ONLY REASON I DID IT...

MAMBO!!!
HA!
WELL, SHE SEEMS TO HAVE A FULL PLATE TODAY
ACK! I'VE GOTTA GET THINGS PREPPED ON STAGE! TAKE CARE OF THE CORN FOR ME!!!
OHH!
RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE
I'M KOTO-BUKI RAN, CAPTAIN OF THE HOUNAN HIGH SCHOOL SHIBUYA CLUB'S MAMBO SQUAD!!
YEAAAHH!
RAN-// CHAN!
TODAY, WE'VE GOT A BUNCH OF FAB EVENTS FOR YOU...
...AND WE'RE GONNA START WITH THE "HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SINGING CONTEST!"
IT SAYS, "LAST YEAR, I WORE MY PLATFORM BOOTS TOO MUCH AND I GOT ATH-LETE'S FOOT...
"MY FEET STUNK SO BADLY THAT MY BOYFRIEND DUMPED ME. AND NOW, STILL BOYFRIEND-LESS...
"...I'M FINALLY READY TO SPEAK MY MIND...IN THE FORM OF A SONG... SO HERE'S 'LONELY SOLDIER.'"
CORN ON THE COB
YA-YA-YA-

21ST HOUNAN FESTIVAL
ENTRANCE
WELCOME
HO-HO-HO!!!
WE'RE PACKIN' 'EM IN TODAY!!! TIME TO SHOW THESE PEEPS...
...THE CORN GRILLING TECH I PICKED UP AT THE BEACH SNACK SHOP!!
PASSING OUT ALL THOSE FLYERS REALLY PAID OFF!
THEY'RE BURNING!!!
FLAP FLAP FLAP
MUNCH MUNCH

HERE, YUYA! SAY, "AAAH!" ♡ ♡
YUYA, YOU ARE SO TOTALLY ♡ SHY!
TH-THAT'S A LITTLE BIT TOO MUCH... I MEAN, EVERYONE'S WATCHING!
WHO IS SHE, ANY-WAY?!
WHAT'S SHE DOING TO HIM?!
DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?!
WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?!
KYAAAAA
AWA-WA-WA!
YOU MUTTERING IDIOTS ARE INTER-RUPTING MY LOVE-FEST WITH YUYA, SO GET LOST!!
N-NOW WHAT?!
BLINK
AND SPEAK-ING OF LOVE-FEST! ♡

PARA PARA WORKSHOP HERE!!
I'LL LET YOU HANDLE THE REST OF THE CONTEST FROM HERE!
♪ ...BUT I WILL FIGHT ON...
OKAY!
BEND YOUR LEFT ARM, EXTEND YOUR RIGHT!
THEN DO THE SAME THING, BUT OPPOSITE ARMS!
A'IGHT!
TATSU-KICHI, YOU ARE IN CHARGE!!

what else, what else? Hmm...I'm reading a pretty normal life these days. There was one incident that really bummed me out, though. I lost a ring!! It was a blue topaz ring that I wore one day when I went around to various places in Shibuya and somewhere along the line, it must've fallen off! When I went to buy a new one, I couldn't find it in the right size (LOL)!! Oh well, it was just a ring (Not a very good attitude!)

But that's the only thing that's brought me down recently.

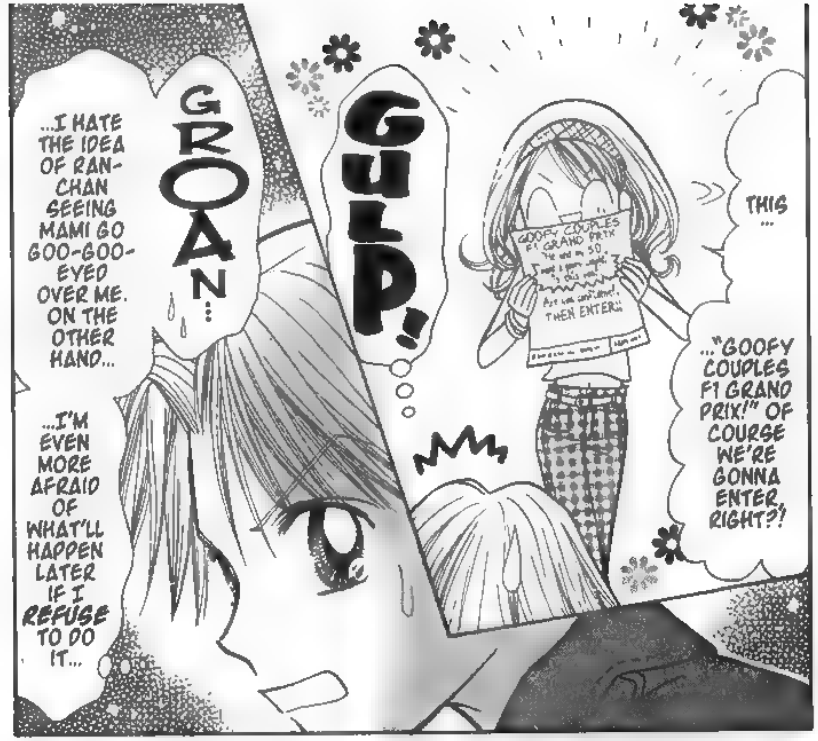
Oh, by the way, by the time this volume (6) comes out, I hope all of you will have gotten used to being back in school for the new semester. Are you??

And I especially hope that you students who are starting at a new school and haven't adjusted yet make a lot of friends!♡

In the monthly comics magazine right now, Ran-pyon and her friends are third-year seniors now! I'm trying to get the feeling of starting a new year as well, bringing everything I have to the table to do a good job.!

I know this may be a time when you're feeling kind of stressed out because of sudden changes in your environment, but when you are feeling that way, read "GALS!" to cheer yourself up!! And that's all that's new with me, folks!♡

MM...
...I DON'T THINK HE'S HERE YET.
BY THE WAY, WHERE'S OTO-HATA?
I HOPE AYA-CHAN'S OKAY. I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT HER.
THAT REALLY SUCKS!! I WAS RIGHT! SHE SHOULD'VE JUST BROKEN UP WITH HIM!
IT'S ON THE FIRST FLOOR ON YOUR RIGHT AS YOU ENTER THE BUILD-ING.
THE PARA-PARA WORK-SHOP IS BEING HELD IN BUILDING NUMBER 5 IN THE AUDIO-VISUAL ROOM.


...I HATE THE IDEA OF RAN-CHAN SEEING MAMI GO GOO-GOO-EYED OVER ME. ON THE OTHER HAND...
...I'M EVEN MORE AFRAID OF WHAT'LL HAPPEN LATER IF I REFUSE TO DO IT...
GROAN...
GULP!
GOOFY COUPLES F1 GRAND PRIX
THEN ENTER...
THIS...
..."GOOFY COUPLES F1 GRAND PRIX!" OF COURSE WE'RE GONNA ENTER, RIGHT?!

*THE GHOST GIRL FROM "RING" (THE ORIGINAL JAPANESE VERSION)

GALS PRODUCTION NOTES

Pop quiz!! In the course of putting together a GALS! story, which part of the work is my favorite??

① penciling (rough draft)
② inking
③ laying down the tones (shading)

I'll give you a little time to think about it!! TICK TICK TICK TICK TICK TICK TIME'S UP!!

(I know I should stop with that, but I just can't help myself.) The answer is... penciling!! Choices 2) and 3) are enjoyable as well, but inking, for example, is just tracing over my rough draft, right? Once in a while, I get tired of it! tracing over everything (LOL) What I like about drawing the rough draft by pencil is the freedom it gives me to experiment, through trial and error what I like about putting on the finishing touches, on the other hand, is the concentration it calls for. And GALS! takes a lot of concentration, but not in a bad way, more like the concentrating keeps me awake (LOL) Another little fave of mine is drawing the waves in Ran-Ryon's hair so yeah, like that! (Huh? Like what??)

→ NEXT.

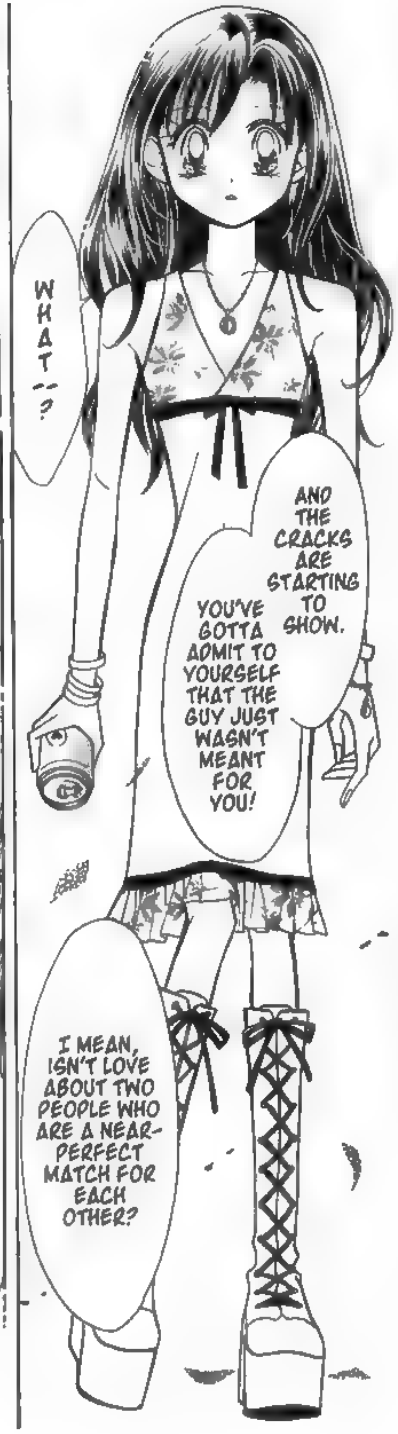
I'M FIDGETY ALL DAY AND CAN'T SEEM TO FOCUS ON ANYTHING...
...WHICH IS WHY I BOMBED MY LAST PRACTICE TEST AT CRAM SCHOOL.
SO MY GOAL IS TO STAY SO BUSY THAT I DON'T HAVE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT!
OH, I'VE GOT A...
...FRESHLY BROKEN HEART.

GOT IT! THANKS!
SURE! HAVE A GOOD TIME!
HOW IS IT GOING? CAN YOU AFFORD TO TAKE FIVE?
NO, THAT'S OKAY. BEING BUSY KEEPS MY MIND OCCUPIED.
WHY ... ...DOES YOUR MIND NEED TO BE OCCUPIED?
.....
THE LIBRARY'S THE ONLY QUIET PLACE LEFT ON SCHOOL GROUNDS.
HOW ABOUT HEADING OVER THERE FOR A BREATHER?
CHALK ANOTHER VICTORY UP TO RAN!
THANK YOU! I HAD NO IDEA WE'D GET THIS BIG A CROWD.

YEAH...
...BUT NOW, I...
OTO-HATA-KUN!
I WASN'T SURE IF YOU WERE COMING!
HEY.

KIND OF OVER-STEPPED MY BOUNDS THERE.
WHOOO SORRY!
.....

...FOR START-ERS, YOUR GRADES WOULON'T DROP!
BUT IF I WERE YOUR BOY-FRIEND...
AND WAY BACK WHEN, YOU HAD THE HIGHEST SCORE ON THE ENTRANCE EXAMS TO THIS SCHOOL!
YOU ARE THE HIGHEST-RANKED SECOND-YEAR STUDENT!
CHRRRR CHRRRR


WHAT--?
AND THE CRACKS ARE STARTING TO SHOW.
YOU'VE GOTTA ADMIT TO YOURSELF THAT THE GUY JUST WASN'T MEANT FOR YOU!
I MEAN, ISN'T LOVE ABOUT TWO PEOPLE WHO ARE A NEAR-PERFECT MATCH FOR EACH OTHER?

...ALL I KNOW IS I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING CRUSHED.
I DON'T KNOW ...
AND WHAT?
THAT'S MY FAULT?
THEN IT'S PROBABLY LIKE THAT GUY OVER THERE SAID...
CRUSHED, HUH?
...AND THE CRACKS ARE START-ING TO SHOW.
...YOU ARE BEING TOO HARD ON YOUR-SELF...
BANG!

BUT HERE YOU ARE, LAUGH-ING.
THAT TAKES A LOAD OFF MY MIND.
KOTOBUKI SAID YOU "CRY EVERY DAY" SO I THOUGHT I'D COME SEE FOR MYSELF.
UM... I...
INSIDE ...
...I'M ALWAYS CRYING UP A STORM...

EVENT STAGE
GRRRR
UH-OH, IT LOOKS LIKE HE HAS FIVE SECONDS BEFORE MAMI-RIN ERUPTS!!!
UM ...I... HOW CAN I PUT IT..I REALLY L...L..LI...
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
GRAB
AWAA!
IS THIS THE MOUTH THAT CAN'T SAY "LOVE?!" HUH?! THIS?! THIS MOUTH ?!?
YEAHHH! YEAHHH! GET 'IM, MAMI-RIN!!
MISCALCULATION! HE ACTUALLY HAD ONE SECOND!!
CYA HA HA HA!
PLINK
PLING
♪ ...AND THIS UKULELE... WHICH I'M S'POSED TO BE PRACTICIN' DAILY... ♫
♪ A RENDEZ-VOUS... WITH JUST ME AND YOUUU... ♫
STRUM THRUMM THRUMM

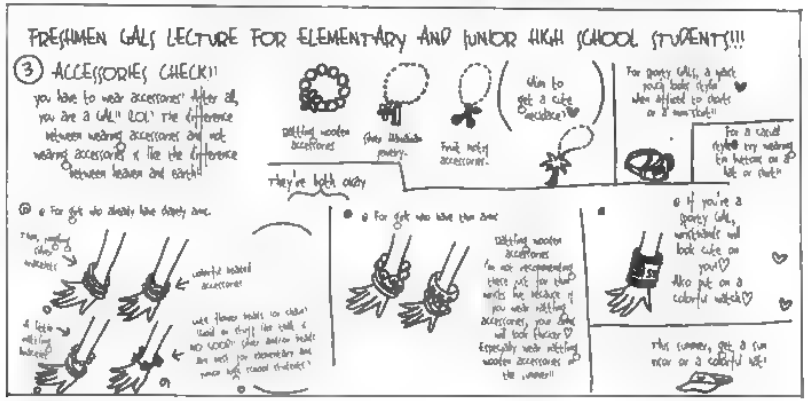
ARE YOU OKAY ...? AYA-SAN?
THAT THE FAMOUS HEART-BREAKER?
ZOOM-IN!!!
...GIVE AN HONEST, PERSONALIZED LOVE MESSAGE TO MAMI-RIN!!! YUYA-KUN...
ALRIGHT, WE'RE DOWN TO THE FINAL ROUND!!
EVENT STAGE
HOUMAN
YEAHHH
YEAHHH

AS I'LL EVER BE, DETECTIVE KOTOBUKI!!
READY, DETECTIVE MASATO?!
I DON'T MIND YOU TWO COMING UP WITH "DEADLY TECHNIQUES..."
HEY
TWIRL TWIRL TWIRL
...BUT YOU'VE GOTTA STOP PRACTICING THEM IN FRONT OF THE POLICE BOX!
...NEW ROLLING ATTACK!!
ROLL ROLL
THE JUNIOR HIGH DETECTIVES'

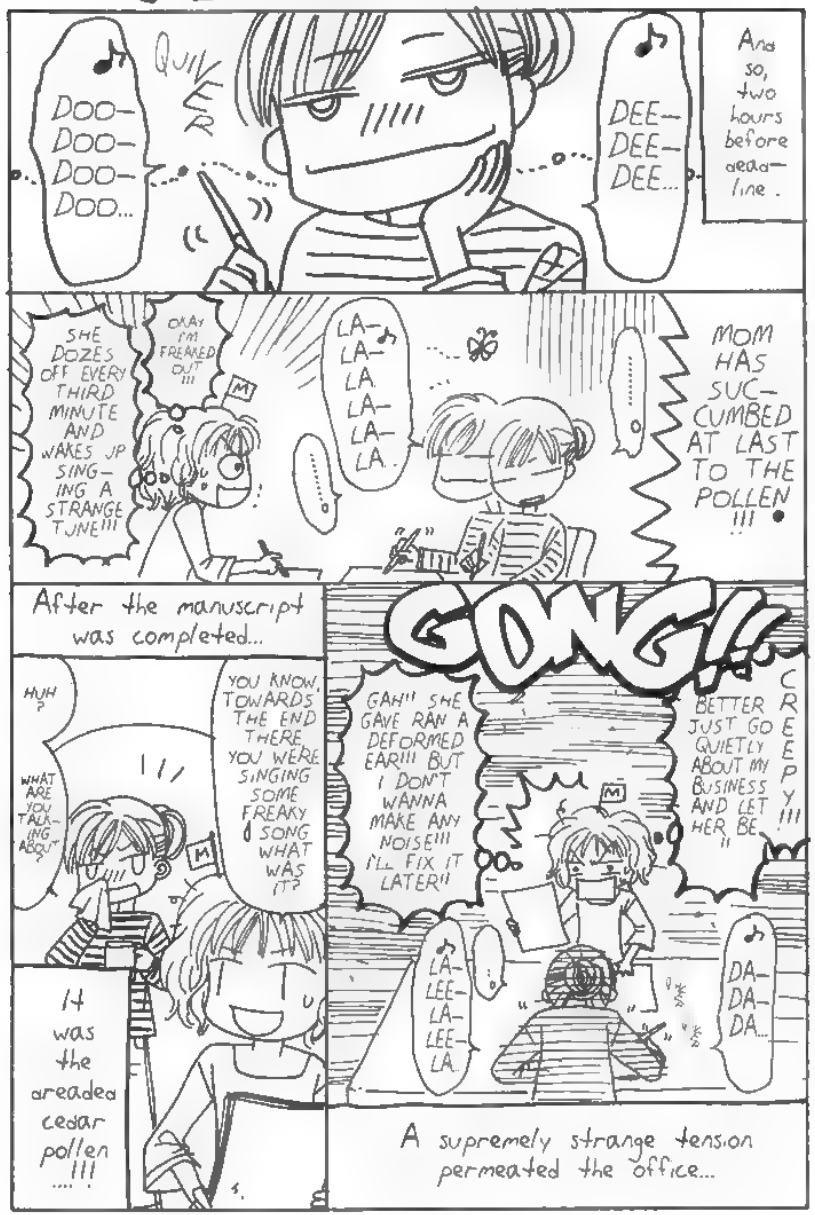
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BELLY DANCE TO THAT?!
I TOLD YOU TO PRACTICE!!!
HULA DANCE, NOT BELLY DANCE!
I'M SORRY!
...BUT IT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO GET RAN'S HEART...
IS THAT, LIKE, NEW AGE MUSIC?
WHAT IS THAT?
THIS SONG IS OFF TO A STUPID START...
WHAP
AOWW
IT'S THE WORD "WIN." RAN ESPECIALLY CAN'T RESIST IT.
ALL THIS FUSS OVER WHAT? THEY ACTUALLY WANNA WIN THE "GOOFIEST COUPLE AWARD?!"
WHAT?! NO WAY, OLD MAN! YOU DON'T PLAY FAVORITES WHEN I'M AROUND!
MMM...THEN I'LL GIVE IT TO THE PERSON WHO MADE THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL A HIT, KOTOBUKI-KUN!!
I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO IT, SO LET'S HAVE THE VICE-PRINCIPAL DECIDE WHO THE WINNER IS!
WHICHEVER, WE'RE THE GOOFIEST COUPLE!!
PUNCH PUNCH
SLURP SLURP
BOOOO! BOOOO!
YEAHHH! YEAHH!

Episode 21: The End

GAL*S!
Episode 22: The Autumn Designs of a Heart in Love


FRESHMEN GALS LECTURE FOR ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!!!
3 ACCESSORIES CHECK!!
you have to wear accessories! After all, you are a GAL!! LOL! The difference between wearing accessories and not wearing accessories is like the difference between heaven and earth!!
Matching wooden accessories
Navy blue socks + navy shoes
Fruit motif accessories
Wish to get a cute necklace?
They're both okay
For granny GALS, a short, young looks style when offset by pearls or a mini hat!!
For a casual style try wearing tights or bottoms or a hat or shoes!
For girls who already have dressy ones.
Two, maybe three, colorful watches!
Colorful beaded accessories
A little matching bracelet
Cute flower motifs in color! Used in stuff like nails, a NO GOOD! Color and/or motif are best for elementary and junior high school students!
For girls who have the same
Matching wooden accessories I'm not recommending these just for those wants but because if you wear matching accessories, your look will look fancy! Especially wear matching wooden accessories on the ,,,,,,!!
If you're a granny GAL, wristwatch will look cute on you!! Also put on a colorful watch!
This summer, get a sun visor or a colorful hat!

2 BLOODBATH!!


DOO-DOO-DOO-DOO...
QUIVER
DEE-DEE-DEE...
And so, two hours before aeaa-line.
SHE DOZES OFF EVERY THIRD MINUTE AND WAKES UP SINGING A STRANGE TUNE!!!
OKAY I'M FREAKED OUT!!!
LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA.
MOM HAS SUCCUMBED AT LAST TO THE POLLEN!!!
After the manuscript was completed...
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU KNOW, TOWARDS THE END THERE YOU WERE SINGING SOME FREAKY SONG WHAT WAS IT?
It was the areadea cedar pollen....!!!
GONG!!!
GAH!! SHE GAVE RAN A DEFORMED EAR!!! BUT I DON'T WANNA MAKE ANY NOISE!!! I'LL FIX IT LATER!!
CREEPY!!! BETTER JUST GO QUIETLY ABOUT MY BUSINESS AND LET HER BE...
LA-LEE-LA-LEE-LA.
DA-DA-DA...
A supremely strange tension permeated the office...

ENDo

MUNCH MUNCH
HA-HAHEE-HAHEE HOHEEHO HENHYU-HOHO-HEEHAHO! HAHYAAA!!
HEEHAA!! HOHIN-HEEFU HOHEY-HAHEY!!
AND RAN'S FACE IS DIS-GUST-ING...
YOUR TRANS-LATION IS AMAZ-ING!
SHE SAYS, "I'M SERIOUSLY HOOKED ON THESE CLUBHOUSE MACS!"
FUHAFUHYA HYUHAFFU HAHEEHAHA-HYAAA!!!
SHE SAYS, "I'M REALLY PSYCHED ABOUT THE OLYMPICS! MAYBE I'LL BECOME AN OLYMPIC LONG JUMPER OR SOMETHING."
IT'S LIKE A VENTRI-LOQUIST'S ACT!

YOU JUST HAVE TO WORK ON POL-ISHING YOUR TECH-NIQUES A LITTLE MORE!
IT'S OKAY! IT'S OKAY!
I'M SORRY ...
DRIP DRIP DRIP
I...I THINK SO.
AYA-SAN, ARE YOU OKAY?!
YOU TWO HAVE CAUSED ENOUGH TROUBLE TODAY! NOW BEHAVE!!
AWAWA...!
SURE, I'M FINE! I'M FINE...
ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?!
NO, I DON'T THINK IT WAS BECAUSE OF YOU GUYS ...SHE LOOKED KIND OF PALE. I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT HER...
W-WE SHOULD PROBABLY BAN IT FROM OUR REPER-TOIRE....!!
OUR ROLLING ATTACK MIGHT BE TOO POWER-FUL....!!

I WANNA TRY AND FIND FOLKLORE-TYPE ACCESSORIES!
I'M GONNA GET AMERICAN-STYLE ACCESSORIES! ♡
I THINK I'LL STICK WITH COLORFUL, RATTLING ACCESSORIES,♡ COLLECTING AS MANY AS I CAN! ♡
OH, MY GOD! DON'T SAY THAT WORD AROUND ME!!
THAT STYLE TAKES A LOT OF MONEY, Y'KNOW.
AH!
AS FOR YOURS TRULY, MY THEME THIS YEAR IS GOLD AND SILVER!! I LOVE THE JINGLE-JANGLE WHEN I PUT ON A BUNCH!!
JINGLE
JINGLE
SO I'M GONNA KEEP ON KEEPIN' ON WITH MY COOL GAL STYLE !!

I'LL THINK ABOUT IT!! THE DISCUS THROW JUST MIGHT BE A CINCH FOR ME, TOO!
HAH!!
WHAT DO YOU THINK? FOUR YEARS FROM NOW?
BUT ANYWAY, FOR RAN, I DOUBT EVEN THE OLYMPICS WOULD BE A PIPE DREAM!
OH, YEAH, SHE SAID SHE HAD TO STOP OFF FIRST AT HER CRAM SCHOOL.
ANYWAY, AYA'S LATE. WE'RE SUPPOSED TO GO ACCESSORY SHOPPING TODAY!
HEY, HEY, OUT WITH IT! WHAT'S IT GONNA BE THIS FALL?!
PIN PIN PIN PIN
FLY! FLY!
AND THE BEST PART WOULD BE THE CASH PRIZE THAT COMES WITH THE GOLD MEDAL!!
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A DISCUS?
YOU UNDERESTIMATE THE OLYMPICS...
WHAP
AAH!

THERE YOU ARE!! I HAVE SOMETHING TO REPORT!!
DON'T TELL ME. YOU'VE CONCOCTED ANOTHER NEW "DEADLY TECHNIQUE?"
NO, IT'S ABOUT AYAPE!
AYA?
I RAN INTO HER A LITTLE WHILE AGO AND SHE SEEMED BUMMED OUT TO THE MAX!
SOMETHING TO DO WITH OTOCHI AGAIN, I'D GUESS.
UH-OH. SHE'S NOT ANSWERING HER CELL EITHER.
DACHU!
I'LL TRY ASKING HER ABOUT IT TOMORROW.
GOOD WORK, SAYO!
BY THE WAY, SAYO-CHAN, ISN'T IT ALMOST TIME FOR YOU TO DECIDE WHERE YOU'RE GOING NEXT YEAR?

LOOK AT ALL THESE HIGH SCHOOL BROCHURES I'VE COLLECTED!
I'M ♡GLAD YOU ASKED! ♡
HEY, THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S FALL OF HER SENIOR YEAR IN JUNIOR HIGH!
ADMISSIONS INFORMATION 2001 New Students Welcome
SO, WHAT, THIS YEAR THE SCHOOL IS TRYING TO GET JUNIOR HIGH KIDS TO DIG UP ALL THE POTATOES BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE WILL?
WHAT, YOU WANNA DIG UP POTATOES?! I HEAR THAT EVERY YEAR THE HARVEST FEST IS A TOTAL NO-SHOW!!!
HA HA HA
ACTUALLY, I'M REALLY ♡ LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
LAME!
HARVEST FESTIVAL ?!?
OF COURSE I PLAN ON TAKING THE ENTRANCE EXAM FOR HOUNAN HIGH, TOO♡ THEN I CAN TAKE PART IN HOUNAN'S FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL!
PATH!

Beep
BOOK 1st.
WAIT A SEC! I THOUGHT YOU STUDIED AT CRAM SCHOOL. SO WHY...?
...I WANT STUDY-AID BOOKS AS IN-SURANCE.
MMM...
ARE YOU HERE TO LOOK FOR STUDY-AID BOOKS, TOO?
WHAT A COIN-CI-DENCE!
KATASE-KUN...
AYA-SAN?

EVEN IN HIGH SCHOOL, THE DETECTIVES'LL BE THERE!
SAYO AND MASATO, ALWAYS TOGETHER!
IF WE GOTTA GO, MIGHT AS WELL BE ONE THAT'S COOL!
FUN, FUN HIGH SCHOOL!
READY?!
OH, C'MON, THE SCHOOL WILL BE A LOT LIVE-LIER IF SHE'S A STU-DENT THERE ...
I'M PRAY-ING THAT YOU DON'T DECIDE TO GO TO HOU-NAN!
YOU'VE SUS-TAINED ONLY LIGHT WOUNDS, DETEC-TIVE KOTO-BUKI!!!
I'M... SORRY!!
DASH
ROGER!
COM-MENCE RESEARCH! THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!!
DE-TEC-TIVE KO-TO-BUKI !!!
ACK!

.....
OH. ABOUT YOUR BOY-FRIEND AGAIN?
YOU CAN'T CONCEN-TRATE BECAUSE YOU KEEP THINKING ABOUT HIM?
YOU ALWAYS STUDY ALONE, RIGHT?
YOU COULD JUST BE PANICK-ING BE-CAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE A STUDY BUDDY.
YEAH. BUT... THAT MIGHT NOT BE THE PROBLEM.
ONE WAY TO GET OUT OF A SLUMP...
...IS TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM THAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.
AND IF YOUR PROBLEM'S STUDYING, I'M YOUR GO-TO GUY!
SO IT'S SET! LET'S GET START-ED!
WHAT?! WAIT A MIN-UTE!

...AND MY SCORE WAS LOWER THAN LAST TIME.
TODAY, I GOT MY RESULTS BACK FROM THE NATIONWIDE MOCK TEST...
INSURANCE?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
IF MY SCORES KEEP DROP-PING...
ALRIGHT!
FROM NOW ON, WE'LL STUDY TOGETHER!
.....
I DON'T EVEN WANT TO THINK ABOUT WHAT MY PA-RENTS'LL SAY...
... THERE'S NO WAY I'LL BE ABLE TO GET INTO ONE OF THE TOP SIX UNIVER-SITIES.

Oh, yeah! I spent a lot of time wracking my brain again over the cover to this volume and still ended up with the usual pattern! (LOL) If you go to a bookstore and see volumes one through five all lined up on the shelf together, it's nearly impossible to tell them apart! Until this volume, all of the covers have used warm colors, so this time I thought I'd use cool blue instead. And I did, trying to challenge myself and yet, there's hardly any difference! Ah, well, that's okay. Are you sure? Everybody, please be extra careful when you're buying to make sure you get the right volume!! (LOL)

You know, I'm really looking forward to this upcoming Gal-amarous season♡♡ In the spring, more Gals adopt a big sister look, which is refreshing to look at, but really, summer is Gal season!! ♡ I can't wait to draw cute and flashy clothes! ♡♡♡ I want everyone out there to have a rip-roaring summer this year! ♡♡

(Although as I write this, it's cold in Tokyo!! And rainy!!! BRRRR!!

And that's all she wrote for "Gals!" Production Notes!

EDITOR'S NOTE
Mihona-san is referring here to the original Japanese editions.

HOW CAN I HELP YOU, O FACULTY ADVISER, NAKANISHI-SENSEI?
SOMETHING FISHY IS GOING ON...
THE REST OF THE WORLD IS JEALOUS OF US, AREN'T THEY?
YEAH!
HMM, TRUE, TRUE. BUT REGARDING JAPAN'S FUTURE...
KACHA
I'M COMING IN!
HOW WOULD I KNOW THAT?! I HAVE NOT GOT THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF INTEREST IN THE FEST!
SAY WHAT?!
WELL...
IT'S ABOUT THIS MONTH'S HARVEST FESTIVAL. DID YOU KNOW THAT 2ND YEAR STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE?
GULP!
ME, IN CHARGE OF DIGGING FOR POTATOES!?
NO——!!!
THIS YEAR, JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART, TOO...
... SO THE VICE-PRINCIPAL IS EXCITED... SO EXCITED THAT HE'S APPARENTLY GOING TO PLACE YOU IN CHARGE, KOTOBUKI!

YAYYYYYY!!
CHEERS!!
RATTLE RATTLE
SHIBUYA CLUB
Shibuya Club
WELL, LET'S ALL CELEBRATE GETTING OUR OWN ROOM FOR THE SHIBUYA CLUB!!!
FOR ME, THIS ROOM IS A NICE SAFE-HOUSE ♡ FOR CONTRABAND SNACKS!
I THOUGHT I'D EXPLODE WHEN HE TOOK AWAY MY CELL PHONE!
OUR TEACHER IS SOOO STRICT! SO HAVING THIS HIDEAWAY IS A REAL LIFESAVER FOR US!
YEAH, BUT GIVE ME TEN SECONDS!!
CLATTER CLATTER
HIDE EVERYTHING!
CRUD!
NOK NOK
KOTOBUKI, ARE YOU IN THERE?! IT'S NAKANISHI!

GALS RESEARCH

This month (March), I went to Shibuya four or five times, but pretty much only for shopping!! (LOL) I buy bags at 3 Mandou (or), but Maru, which has a young section that's full of cute sales girls♡! I bought a red overnight bag and a big purple bag♡! I recommend the Doutour coffee shop that's in Shibuya, (Chome by the electricity museum) it's really spacious, a good place for just hanging out!♡ And the Love Letter Cafeteria on Center Street is cheap! And the food is good!! And you can relax there!! Highly recommended!♡ A lot of junior high school students go there even when I took pictures of the restaurant, no one got angry at me, so I really dig the place!

~

— Let me rewind a bit! (LOL) In mid-March, I went to Shibuya to do research with a staff member of the comics magazine's Super GALS Project (look for the upcoming GALS para feature) Actually, I should say I dragged her along kicking and screaming (LOL) I just had to get a photo of the Hachiko Exit's crossing as seen from above, so I went to the third floor of a building that shall remain nameless, ducked behind a product display and secretly(?) shot away, with my camera pointing out the window! Meanwhile, my companion for the day, Ichan, stood guard!

→NEXT.

HE SEEMS STUCK UP BUT KIND OF A HOT-TIE!

WHO'S THAT GUY NEXT TO AYA?

WOW, THEY SURE SEEM COZY STUDYING TOGETHER ...

CRASH

EH-HEH!

A HOTTIE?! WHERE? LET ME SEE!!

STUPID! QUIT PUSHIN', SA-TSUKI !!

WHAT'S UP, GUYS?

HEY...

GYA HA HA HA!

RAN'S GONNA TEACH THE JUNIOR HIGH KIDS HOW TO DIG UP POTA-TOES ?!?

SNORT

OH, REALLY ? I WONDER WHAT'S IN THIS LOCKER ...? ♪

MY NAILS WILL CRACK! I CAN'T DO IT! IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!

ALRIGHT! YOU GOT ME! I'LL DO IT!! SOB

THAT REMINDS ME, I HEARD THE ACA-DEMIC TRACK CLASS DOESN'T HAVE TO PAR-TICIPATE! I'M WAY JEALOUS!

WELL, I SUP-POSE I WOULD RATHER PICK POTA-TOES THAN STUDY!

MM?

DON'T WORRY, WE'LL PITCH IN A LITTLE BIT!

I GUESS YOU BURNED YOURSELF OUT ON FESTIVALS WITH THAT LAST ONE, HUH?

THAT'S ENOUGH OUT OF YOU! NO WAY AM I GETTIN' SUCKERED INTO DOING THIS ALL BY MYSELF...!!!

GRRR

A THOU-SAND PAR-DONS!

W-WHAT?!

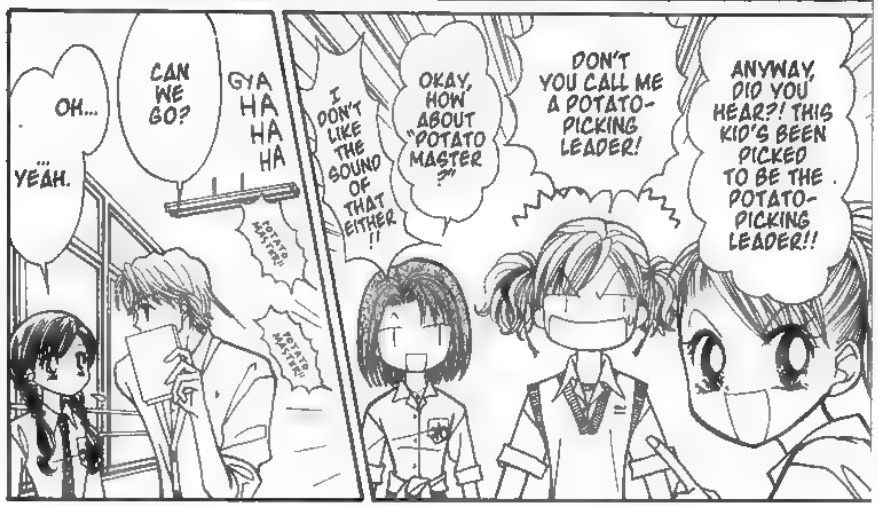
FREEZE

STOP!!!

Thank you, S-chan! ♡ After that, we went to Shibuya Center, which had already changed so much since the last time we were there!! GyAAA! Shocking! Just in March, I noticed there were a lot of places under construction so I'm sure that by the time April rolls around, there'll be many more changes. Oh, well. To be honest, I'm looking forward to it. Right now it's spring vacation and I really wanna capture Shibuya during this time on film, but I imagine it's more crowded than ever, which makes me think I might get claustrophobic (LOL), so I'm pretty sure I'll just wait for spring break to be over before making another photo foray in Shibuya. See, I'm not good with trains. Once I get to where I'm going, I'm fine, but a packed train is like poison to me. I hate it! Does that make me spoiled? If so, sorry. Oh!! That reminds me. The last time I was on the train, maybe it was the Yamanote Line, there were these two GALS sitting right next to me and they were talking so animatedly. They were hilarious! (LOL)! I don't remember exactly what they were talking about, something about whether or not to go bowling. I think, but what was funny was the way they talked, with machine gun speed, one of them constantly interrupting the other. It was all I could do to keep from laughing!! And then, I couldn't help it! I did laugh!

→ NEXT.

OH, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU. THIS IS KATASE-KUN, FROM MY CLASS.
HI, THERE!
HE'S HELPING ME GET UP TO SPEED WITH STUDYING.
OH, PLEASE! I DON'T SEE HOW YOU COULD POSSIBLY STUDY MORE THAN YOU DO NOW!
HEY, DON'T SAY THAT!
HE'S REALLY HELPING ME!
YEAH, YEAH. I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS.


ANYWAY, DID YOU HEAR?! THIS KID'S BEEN PICKED TO BE THE POTATO-PICKING LEADER!!
DON'T YOU CALL ME A POTATO-PICKING LEADER!
OKAY, HOW ABOUT "POTATO MASTER"?
I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT EITHER!!
GYA HA HA HA
CAN WE GO?
OH... ...YEAH.
POTATO MASTER!

WHA-?!
HMMM...
OF COURSE, AYA DOES TEND TO GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER COMES HER WAY.
AND THAT KATASE-KUN IS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN HER.
SHE'S POPULAR IN HER OWN RIGHT, AFTER ALL.
ROGER!!
REEL HIM IN !!!
OTO-CHI AT ONE O'CLOCK !!!
DASH
GRAB
ARE YOU ACCUSING ME OF SOMETHING?! HEY!
THE TARGET WAS SUCCESSFULLY RETRIEVED !!

YEAH, RIGHT?! JUST THE OTHER DAY, SHE WAS ALL MOPEY LIKE THIS...
...AND NOW, SHE'S BACK TO HER OLD SELF, LIKE THIS!
THEN THANK GOD FOR HER NEW GUY GETTING HER BACK INTO HIGH SPIRITS ...
I'M NOT TOO SURE ABOUT THAT...
BEING COMFORTED BY SOME GUY BECAUSE OF PROBLEMS WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND IS SOMETHING I COULD NEVER DO.
WHEN I LOOK AT AYA, I HAVE A FEELING THAT SHE'S ONLY TRYING TO AVOID THE "OTO-CHI PROBLEM."
...I MEAN, AYA AND OTO-CHI HAVEN'T EVEN OFFICIALLY BROKEN UP.

AS FAR AS I KNOW, SHE'S ALWAYS TRIED NOT TO BE A BURDEN TO YOU, EVEN AT THE EXPENSE OF HOLDING BACK WHAT SHE REALLY WANTED TO SAY!
WHAT?! HAS AYA EVER MADE YOU FEEL TIED DOWN?!
THIS WAY, I DON'T HAVE TO BE TIED DOWN.
I KNOW ...
AND THAT'S WHAT WEIGHS ME DOWN.
...ALL TOO WELL.
OTO-CHI IS A LONE WOLF.
I WAS JUST TRYING TO HELP! UNGRATE-FUL LITTLE ...
TCH!
I'M GONNA BE LATE IF I DON'T GO NOW.
.....
ABOUT HOW MANY POUNDS IS IT?
YEAH?

WHAT AM I....? I'M GOING TO MY DJ JOB.
JUST WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?!
RINNGG
ALRIGHT, ALREADY! NO NEED TO SCREAM!
NO!!! THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT !!!
WELL, IF THAT'S WHAT SHE WANTS, IT'S COOL WITH ME.
SHE GOT A NEW BOY-FRIEND?
HUH.
I CAN'T PRE-TEND I DIDN'T HEAR THAT !!
WHAT?!
I SEE MORE THAN EVER HOW SELF-CEN-TERED YOU ARE!
BUT IF YOU DON'T DO SOME-THING, AYA'S GONNA THROW YOU OVER FOR ANOTHER GUY!
IS THAT OKAY WITH YOU?!

WHY ARE SO MANY OF THE ADMINI-STRATORS HERE WEIRD?
DID YOU EVEN KNOW THERE WAS A GARDEN IN BACK OF THE SCHOOL?
THIS SUCKS ...THIS REALLY SUCKS ...
...IF I GET DIRT UNDER MY NAILS, SO HELP ME...
WHO-EVER DIGS UP THE MOST POTA-TOES WILL GET THIS GOLD MEDAL!
THIS IS GETTING WEIRDER BY THE MINUTE.
POTA-TO OLYM-PICS ...?
WHAT?! A GOLD MEDAL ?!
UWAAA!! MEGA-EMBARRAS-SMENT!!
SIS!!
...I GIVE YOU THE POTA-TO OLYM-PICS!!
FLAP
POTATO OLYMPICS
GOING ALONG WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE OLYM-PICS THAT ARE HELD THIS YEAR...

Hounan High School Fall Harvest Festival
HMM... I'M STILL NOT ENTIRELY CON-VINCED...
I WAS RIGHT AFTER ALL! BREAKING UP WITH HIM IS THE BEST THING AYA COULD DO!
THE PRINCIPAL AND I HAVE PUT A LOT OF LOVE INTO CREATING THIS "HOUNAN FARM" AND WE WANT YOU ALL TO DIG UP POTATOES TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!!
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!! WELCOME TO HOUNAN HIGH SCHOOL'S HARVEST FESTIVAL!!

OOOHHHHH
POTATO INVESTI-GATION IN FULL SWING ...!!
GUESS HER PRIDE GOES OUT THE WINDOW
FWIT FWIT
FWIT FWIT
SPECIAL ATTACK !! NAIL RAKE ...!!

AAAHHHHH
SPIN
SPIN
ROL-LING POTA-TO DIG-GER ...!!
POTA-TO 100-METER DASH !!

AMAZING HOW SHE USES THAT KNIFE!!
LEAVE THE COOKING TO ME!
CHOP CHOP CHOP CHOP CHOP CHOP CHOP CHOP
POTATO DISCUS! MIYU CATCH!!
WOW
GOT IT!

ONE THING I'M NOT GONNA DO IS LOSE TO MY LITTLE SISTER !!!
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH!! ME AND MASATO ARE AIMING TO SNAG THAT GOLD MEDAL ...!!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THINKING OF WINNING A GOLD MEDAL AND THEN SELLING IT?
NO WAY! PROBABLY 18 KARATS AT BEST! OR MAYBE IT'S JUST GOLD FOIL...
YOU THINK THAT IS PURE GOLD ?!
OF COURSE, YOU JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS SHOULD FEEL FREE TO "GO FOR THE GOLD" TOO...
YEAHH!! I'M SUD-DENLY INTO THIS!!!

JUNIOR HIGH DETECTIVES! COMMENCE POTATO DIGGING INVESTIGATION ...!!
I'LL SHOW YOU THE SECRET ART OF POTATO DIGGING...!!
DON'T BELIEVE HER! SHE'S FULL OF IT!
I'VE HAD 17 YEARS TO GET READY FOR THIS MOMENT AND NOW I'M GONNA PUT IT ALL ON THE LINE TO DIG UP POTA-TOES!!
NEVER UNDER-ESTI-MATE THE POTATO LEADER !!
POTATO LEADER
SIZZLE

WHY ARE YOU BEING SO NICE TO ME?
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY THE POINT...
...BUT IF I'M STARTING TO BUG YOU...
NOT AT ALL.
IN FACT...YOUR KINDNESS IS HELPING ME OUT MORE THAN YOU KNOW.

I'VE HAD MY EYE ON YOU...
...EVER SINCE FRESHMAN YEAR.

CHECK IT OUT!
LOOKS LIKE THE JUNIOR HIGH KIDS ARE HAVING MORE FUN THAN I IMAGINED!
YEAH YEAH
LUCKY OUR CLASS DIDN'T HAVE TO JOIN IN!

WHY?
BECAUSE THIS WAY, YOU AND I GET TO STUDY ALONE.
WHAT DO YOU SAY WE TACKLE BIOLOGY TODAY?
UM... KATASE-KUN...
MM?

YOU'RE SMART, FEMININE ...
...Y-YOU'RE MY IDEAL GIRL.
I WOULD NEVER ...
...HURT YOU. AND I WOULD ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE.
THAT'S WHY, WHEN I SAW YOU SO DEPRESSED RECENTLY, I COULDN'T JUST STAND BY.
I WANT YOU TO STAY UP ON THAT PEDESTAL FOREVER!
WILL YOU... GO OUT WITH ME?
.....
AYA ...?
YOU IN HERE ...?
LATER!
THINK ABOUT IT.
O-OKAY!
HERE YOU ARE!
I MADE THIS! POTATO MULLIGAN STEW!
YOU CAN EAT IT SE-CRETLY! ♡
HERE... IN THE LIBRARY ?
WELL ...I GUESS IT'S OKAY ...

AYA... ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO THIS?
I'D HATE IT IF YOU'D AGREE TO GO OUT WITH HIM JUST BECAUSE THINGS ARE TOUGH NOW OR YOU WANT TO BOLT.
I WANT YOUR BOYFRIEND TO BE SOMEONE THAT YOU REALLY LIKE.
...DID KATASE-KUN ASK YOU OUT?
RIGHT?!
MMM! GOOD! OF COURSE!
SAY, AYA...
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW?!
BY THE STARTLED EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE!
YOU'RE SUCH AN EASY READ...!
ACTUALLY...
...I MIGHT...
...SAY "YES."
BUT I THINK I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING.
SUDDENLY, IT FEELS LIKE A SMALL PART OF MY MIND'S BEEN FREED UP!
THANKS, MIYU!

GALS!
Episode 23:
The Bond Between Gals is Stronger than Stone!

YEAH... THANKS!
WELL, IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'M ALL FOR IT!
REALLY?

HOW DARE THAT VICE PRINCIPAL SWINDLE US KIDS ?!?
MUNCH
MUNCH
That night ...
UNBELIEVABLE!!! IT'S JUST A CHOCOLATE MEDALLION!!

RUDE! HMPH ...!!
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU DON'T WANT SAYO TO TURN INTO RAN...
YOU CAN'T!! YOU'LL LOSE YOUR DESIRE TO BECOME A POLICE OFFICER IF YOU GO TO SCHOOL THERE!
OH NO!
DIGGING UP POTATOES WAS SO MUCH FUN! ♡ I'VE DECIDED I'M GONNA GO TO HOUNAN...!!
Episode 22: The End

FRESHMEN GALS LECTURE FOR ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!!!

④ COSMETICS CHECK!!

● LET'S START WITH NAIL CARE

you don't have to slap on gobs of nail polish just aim to always have manicured nails ♡ As a general rule, it's good to stick with subtle pastel colors, but on special days wear you want to go all out, then challenge yourself with nail art! (Refer to volume 2

● FACE

think it's okay to just use lip gloss, but on your days off, why not put on lipstick, too? My recommendation for elementary school students is to apply a pastel pink color or something like that. Just curling your eyelashes isn't enough, so put on mascara, too! Maybe ask your mom, for example, to show you how to do it. There days, you can get transparent mascara, so your teachers will be none the wiser! LOL!

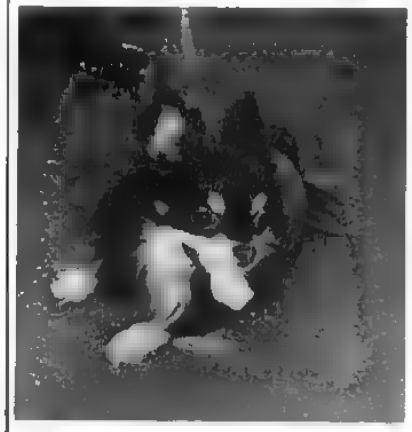
● HAIR

If your school doesn't allow you to dye your hair, keep from getting depressed by trying something different, like making your hair shaggy or twisting it or something! If your school is okay with butterscotch now and you plan on dyeing your hair from now on, I don't recommend using bleach because you'll really damage your hair. Dying your hair the normal way is best

Challenge your imagination and come up with different cute hairstyles by using pins and rubber bands!?

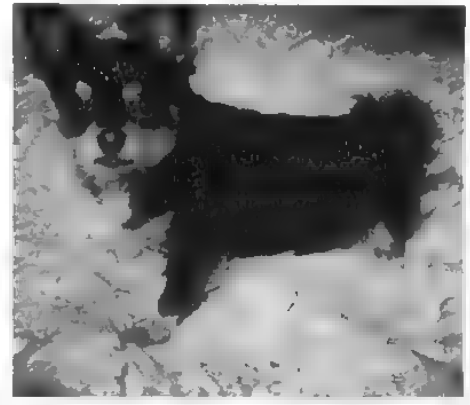
TIMOCHI'S ROOM!

This time let's try and compare the long-haired version of Timmo with the short-haired version!! Timmo is originally a longcoat Chihuahua so he usually looks like this. Actually, his hair always grows secretly, when I'm not looking!! (LOL)



No matter how much hair gets cut off, it seems to grow back twice as fast! Last night, I gave him a bath, which he despises. (LOL) Even when I try to dry him off with a hair dryer, I have to chase him all over the room first! By the way, he always makes these googly eyes when I take him for a walk (LOL). I figure he's on the lookout for other dogs. Timochi after his haircut at the pet hair salon. Do you think he looks "manly?!"

But Timochi is a little fatty, so when his hair gets cut short, his body kinda resembles a big-bellied raccoon dog (LOL). Usually, his portliness is hidden away under all that shaggy fur, though (LOL) It's almost time for him to get a short haircut for the warmer weather. This summer, I'm gonna take Timmo to the beach again! ♡ Last year, we had fun at the Oiso seashore. ♡



HEY! NUMBER TWO!!
COMING TO SHIBUYA DOESN'T MEAN A THING IF I DON'T GET TO SEE HER!!
GLANCE GLANCE
RAN-CHAN! RAN-CHAN! PLEASE BE HERE!
"NUMBER TWO!!!" THOSE TWO WORDS HAVE NEVER SOUNDED BETTER!!!
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
LONG TIME NO SEE!!!
From Number Two's Point of View...
WHAT A SURPRISE!
SURE! WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?!
SPARKLE SPARKLE
WHAT A SURPRISE! TREAT ME TO SOMETHING !!!
UFF!
Shibuya Cent
SHIBUYA
I KNOW WE HAVEN'T BEEN HERE RECENTLY, BUT IS IT JUST ME OR HAVE THE SHIBUYA GALS...
...LOST THEIR LUSTER? I SUPPOSE 'BUKURO'S TIME HAS COME.
YEP.
AND ANYWAY, SHIBUYA GALS ARE WIMPS SO MOST OF 'EM ARE PROBABLY OFF HI-BERNATING FOR THE WINTER.

DRIP
...I WANTED TO SEE... TO SEE...
NO, THAT'S NOT...
...I WANTED TO SEE YOU...
I HAD NO IDEA YOU LOVED SHIBUYA THAT MUCH...
IT'S... MOVING, IN A THREE-SECOND KIND OF WAY!
.....
WAIT! DON'T LEAVE WITHOUT BUYING ME SOMETHING !!!
I CHANGED MY MIND !!
YOU SAID I COULD SPEND THE WHOLE DAY HERE!! SOB
HM?
ACK! ALREADY ?!
SHI-BUYA TIME IS UP!!!
AH! YEAH! AYA ...!
HEY, ISN'T THAT AYA?

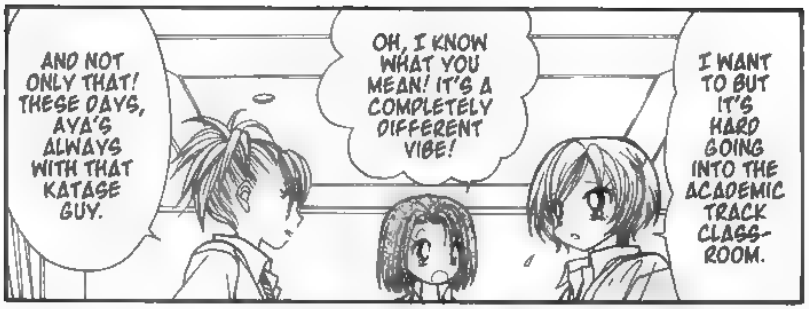
LOOK AT THESE LONG, SOFT EX-TENSIONS! YUYA PAID FOR HALF OF THEM.♡ THAT'S A MARK OF TRUE LOVE, DON'T YOU THINK?♪
HOW DARE YOU INSULT SHIBUYA GALS...?! LOOK AT THIS!! STILL NO SLEEVES!
HAH?!
oOoOGH!!!
BUT THEN AGAIN, TOGETH-ER YOU MAKE THE PERFECT IMPOVER-ISHED COUPLE! ♡
TOO BAD YOUR BOY-FRIEND IS POOR!
EXTEN-SIONS ...LUCKY ...SOFT ...
I WORKED MY BUTT OFF TO PAY FOR HALF OF (35,000 YEN) MAMI'S HAIR EXTENSIONS JUST SO SHE'D AGREE TO LET ME COME TO SHIBUYA SOMETIMES! YOU SHOULD TAKE NOTES!
OH, JUST GET A PART-TIME JOB!
SLUMP
BRO... CAN'T THINGS BE LIKE THEY USED TO BE BE-TWEEN US?
I'M FREEZ-IN' HERE ...

CAN YOU ESCAPE THE CLUTCHES OF MAMI-RIN, NUMBER TWO...?
GALS!
THAT MEANT NOTHIN' ...
...'CAUSE THE BOND BETWEEN US IS STRONGER THAN EVEN STONE!
ALRIGHT, GET BACK TO 'BUKURO WHERE YOU BELONG!!
HEY! HAVE YOU BEEN LISTENING TO ME?!
WHATEVER. I SAY SHIBUYA GALS ARE ABOUT TO GO THE WAY OF THE DINO-SAURS!

AH! SORRY!
COME ON OR WE'LL BE LATE.
ARE YOU ON A DATE?
.....
SEE YOU TOMORROW AT SCHOOL!
YEAH. WE WERE THINKING ABOUT GOING TO A MOVIE.
AS FAR AS I KNOW, HE'S ASKED HER OUT, BUT SHE HASN'T GIVEN HIM THE VERDICT YET.
HUH...? AYA'S GOING OUT WITH THAT GUY...?
NYA!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
I GUESS THE TIES THAT BIND YOUR FRIEND-SHIP ARE LOOSE!!!
PFFT!! SHE BLEW YOU RIGHT OFF!!

.....
THERE!!! COME ON, IF YOU'VE GOT GAME, REALLY GIVE IT TO ME!!!
WAA WAA WAA
CHOCK KA-CHOCK CHOCK KA-CHOCK
JUST TRY AND RETURN KOTOBUKI'S PATENTED PHANTOM MIRACLE SHOT !!!
MIRACLE SHO...
OW !!
HAP
WHIZZ
CHOCK
CRACK
ENOUGH!!!

"PUT UP...WITH... SOMEONE?" UMM..."TO HAVE A HEART?"
"TRANSLATE THE FOLLOWING UNDERLINED EXPRESSIONS INTO COLLOQUIAL ENGLISH."
Basic Chinese Literature
SMASH
CRINGE
ONE-TWO SMASH !!!


AND NOT ONLY THAT! THESE DAYS, AYA'S ALWAYS WITH THAT KATASE GUY.
OH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN! IT'S A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT VIBE!
I WANT TO BUT IT'S HARD GOING INTO THE ACADEMIC TRACK CLASS-ROOM.

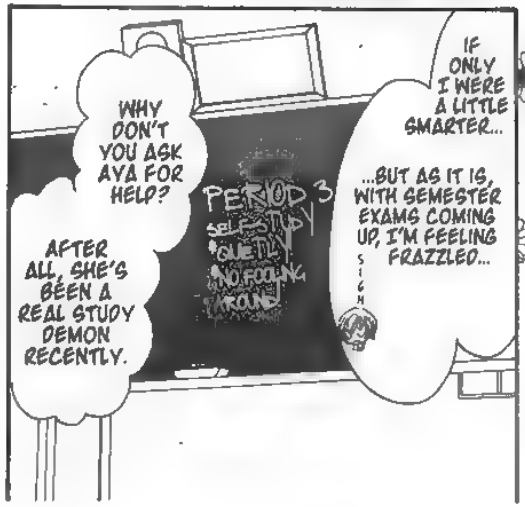
AS LONG AS AYA'S HAPPY, THAT'S ALL THAT REALLY MATTERS FOR NOW, RIGHT?
HEY, NO PRO! NO PRO!
MMM...
...TO BE HONEST, I DON'T LIKE NOT BEING ABLE TO TALK TO AYA WHENEVER I WANT...

WOW! THAT SURE FITS HIS IMAGE!
SPEAKING OF WHOM...
...DID YOU KNOW HIS FAMILY'S RICH? HIS DAD'S SUPPOSED TO BE A POLITICIAN OR SOMETHING.

OUR FRIENDSHIP IS STRONG ENOUGH TO SURVIVE ANYTHING!
YEAH. I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
Basic Chinese Literatu

GASP
AND I'LL BE IN HOT WATER IF I DON'T GET DECENT SCORES ON THE SEMESTER EXAMS!
BE A LITTLE QUIETER, HUH?! I'M A SCHOLAR-SHIP STUDENT, REMEM-BER?!

AWAWA!
WE FORGOT...SORRYYY...
...ONE...TWO...
SOORRYYYY...
THE WHOLE CLASS DOESN'T HAVE TO APOLO-GIZE TO ME!


WHY DON'T YOU ASK AYA FOR HELP?
AFTER ALL, SHE'S BEEN A REAL STUDY DEMON RECENTLY.
PERIOD 3
IF ONLY I WERE A LITTLE SMARTER...
...BUT AS IT IS, WITH SEMESTER EXAMS COMING UP, I'M FEELING FRAZZLED...
SIGH

HEE-HEE-HEE...A PAPER AIR-PLANE MES-SAGE...
...JUST LIKE SOME-THING OUT OF A JAMES BOND MOVIE...
A SE-CRET AS-SIGN-MENT...?
YEAH, RIGHT! ANOTHER LECTURE, I'LL BET!
STILL, KINDA CUTE FOR AN OLD MAN
POP
DID ANYONE SEE YOU COME IN HERE?!
N-NO! I DON'T THINK...
Guidance Office
NAKA-SEN! YOU IN?
KOTO-BUKI... DO YOU...
THEN LET'S GET TO BUS-INESS.
RATTLE

NOW THAT SHE BRINGS IT UP, SHOULDN'T WE BE STUDYING?
ANY-WAY, I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN AC-COMPLISH BY MY-SELF!
NAHHH! WAIT TILL WE'RE IN HOT WATER, I FIGURE!
UH, AREN'T WE ALREADY IN HOT WATER?
FWOOP
SHE'S SO IN-NO-CENT!
DID YOU CATCH THAT LINE?!
GAWD! HOW CHEESY CAN YOU GET?!
IF I'M CHEESY AND IN-NOCENT, SO BE IT!
WHAT-EVER!
...FWAP
OW!
To Kotobuki:
Meet me after school in the guidance office. This is a secret assignment so don't let anyone know.
Nakanishi
A PAPER AIR-PLANE?
WHAT THE--?!
.....

MAINLY FROM THE MID- TO LATE-EDO PERIOD.
HMM...
...I BET THIS, THIS AND THIS'LL BE ON THE EXAM.
WOW...
...I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CAN HAVE SUCH DETAILED HUNCHES ABOUT WHAT'LL BE ON THE TEST!
I'LL LEND YOU MY NOTES.
AND THEN IF YOU JUST MEMORIZE THIS HISTORICAL TIMELINE, YOU'RE ALL SET!
I GUESS HAVING A CLEAR-CUT GOAL...
...SHARPENS YOUR POWER OF CONCEN-TRATION! BUT THANKS TO YOUR HELP, AT LEAST MY SEMESTER EXAM SCORE WON'T DROP!
FOR ME, THE MID-TERM AND SEMES-TER EXAMS HERE ARE ALL I NEED TO GET INTO A GOOD UNIVER-SITY.
GET A HIGH SCORE AND THE PRINCIPAL WILL PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR YOU WITH YOUR COL-LEGE OF CHOICE, RIGHT?

I THINK THIS SCHOOL IS HAUNT-ED!
FOR THE PAST SEVERAL NIGHTS, AT AROUND TWO IN THE MORNING, THERE'VE BEEN SIGHTINGS OF A DARK FIGURE SKULKING AROUND AND A FLOATING LIGHT INSIDE THE SCHOOL...
...WHY HERE?!
HARA-SEN'S MAGE OF A GHOST
GULP
...BE-LIEVE IN GHOSTS
?!
WHAT
!?
WHO WOULDN'T BE IF THE VICE-PRINCIPAL ORDERED THEM TO STAY HERE TONIGHT AND PATROL THE SCHOOL?!
AND, WHAT, YOU'RE SCARED ?!?
SNORT!!!
I'LL BUY YOU A DRINK!
HMMM... WITHOUT SOME KIND OF INCENTIVE...
...YOU'LL STAY HERE AND PATROL WITH ME, WON'T YOU?
SO...
DEAL ♡

"THAT CROWD..."
...YOU MEAN RAN AND MIYU?
THEY'RE THE ONES THAT MADE YOU DRESS SO GAUDILY, RIGHT?
IF YOU'RE WITH THEM, PEOPLE WILL ASSUME YOU'RE STUPID, TOO.
YOU'D DO BETTER TO SOCIALIZE WITH THE SMART...
AND ANOTHER THING...
...I THINK YOU SHOULD STOP HANGING OUT WITH THAT CROWD.
SLAM
THAT'S ENOUGH!
I HAD NO IDEA YOU WERE THE KIND OF GUY TO SAY SUCH TERRIBLE THINGS!

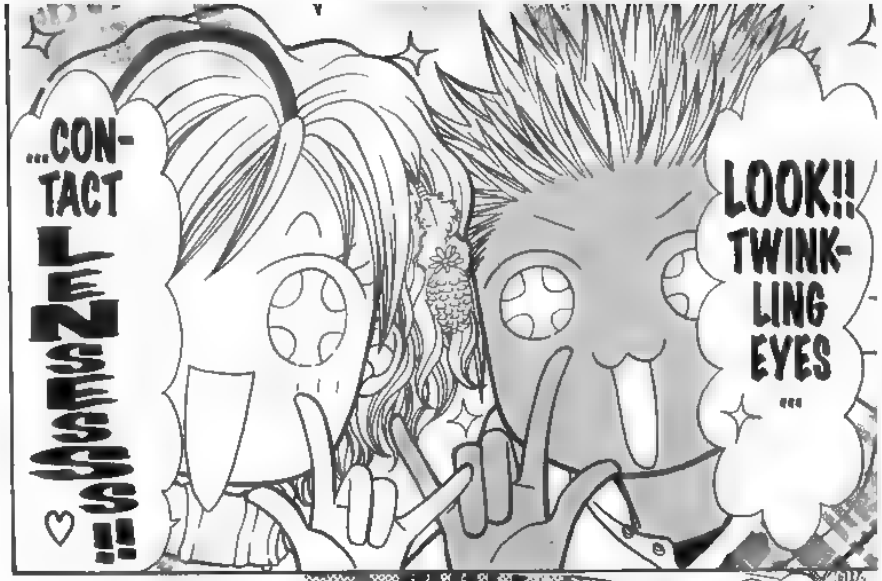
I MEAN, BEFORE, YOU HAD THE "PRIM AND PROPER" IMAGE GOING. SO, JEWELRY AND STUFF, IT JUST...
... DOES NOT LOOK RIGHT ON YOU.
I THINK YOU'D BE BETTER OFF WITHOUT THEM.
HUH?
THOSE THINGS...
UM, RIGHT... IT'S KIND OF A RECENT HABIT.
THOSE BRACE-LETS...
...AT THE START OF FRESH-MAN YEAR, YOU NEVER WORE ACCES-SORIES.
REALLY?
I COULD TAKE THEM OFF...
GOOD.
YOU LOOK BETTER WITH-OUT 'EM!

YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO MAKE UP MY MIND FOR ME!
WRONG!
I DECIDE WHAT I WEAR AND WHO I GO OUT WITH!
.....
DASH

!
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU DO HAVE NO IDEA!
LISTEN, YOU AND I ARE A LOT ALIKE.
YOU WANT YOUR PARENTS AND YOUR SCHOOL'S APPROVAL, RIGHT?
YOU WANT THEIR PRAISE, DON'T YOU?
THEN YOU'VE GOTTA GIVE THE BOOT TO ANYTHING ELSE THAT'S STANDING IN THE WAY!

FIVE DIFFERENT COLORED CONTACT LENSESS!!
IT'S ALL FOR THE EXTENSIONS!
I GUESS I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL SINCE HANDING OUT LEAFLETS IS THE ONLY PART-TIME JOB WE COULD GET!
SOFT LENSES, HARD LENSES, EVERYTHING IS 30$ OFFFFF!!

RARR!!
THAT'S RIGHT! AND ONLY THE FINEST WEAVE MADE OF REAL HUMAN HAIR!
FWAP
HEY, COOL IT, YOU TWO!
I WANNA GET A PART-TIME JOB, TOO!
SHOULDN'T YOU FOCUS ON STUDYING, MIYU-RIN?
GRRRR!! THE EXTENSION WENCH IS BACK?!
FORTUNATELY, MY EYESIGHT IS TWENTY-TWENTYYY!!
SO I HAVE NO USE FOR CONTACT LENSES!


...CONTACT LENSESS!!
LOOK!! TWINKLING EYES...

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?! THAT'S HOW THE MANAGER ORDERED US TO DO THE SALES PITCH!
CONTACT LENSESS!!
SERIOUSLY, ISN'T IT EMBARRASSING TO TALK LIKE "THISSS?"
COLOR CONTACT LENSES ARE ALSO ON SALLE!!
GET 'EM ON SALE NOW, AT 30$ OFFFFF!!

DASH
TA-TSUKI! SEARCH ALL THE BASEMENT-LEVEL CLUBS YOU CAN FIND!
REI'S PHONE IS OUT OF RANGE NOW, MEANING HE'S PROBABLY UNDERGROUND!
OKAY!
THE STAIRS AT MARUQ! LET'S GO!!
A'IGHT!
UMM ...A CROWD, CARS... AN ANNOUNCEMENT...
RAN-CHAN, CAN YOU CATCH ANY OTHER SOUNDS?
.....
SIGH
DON'T LOOK AT ME IF YOU LOSE YOUR PART-TIME JOBS.
UYA
109

BARI-THE SYMBOL ON A CELL PHONE SCREEN MEANING THE CURRENT SIGNAL STRENGTH. BARI-BARI IS THE BEST
HAVE YOU GOT BARI-SAN?!
AYA? HELLO?
HELLO?!
...HI, YOU GOT KOTO-BUKI!! !!
WAIT AND SEE! BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, I'LL BE SPORTING THOSE SAME SILKY, CURLY EXTENSIONS ...
.....SNIFF
WHAT?! SHE'S CRYING?!
AYA! WHERE ARE YOU NOW?!
JUST CRYING DOESN'T TELL ME ANY-THING!
ARE YOU CRYING? HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?

I WANTED THE APPROVAL OF MY PARENTS AND... EVERYBODY SO MUCH...
...THAT IT TOOK ALL I HAD JUST TO PROTECT MYSELF...
I HAD NO CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF...
...SO I THOUGHT GOING ALONG WITH WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAID WAS BEST.
...BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE, I ACTUALLY LOST MY SELF.
...SO WHEN KATASE-KUN TRIED TO MAKE ME STEER CLEAR OF YOU GUYS, I DON'T THINK I REALLY FOUGHT IT.
IN FACT, I'D ALREADY FORGOTTEN OTOHATA-KUN'S ADVICE TO ALWAYS MAKE MY OWN DECISIONS...

THANK GOD YOU WERE AT A PLACE EASILY FOUND!
WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU! WHAT HAPPENED?
I FINALLY REALIZED...
...JUST HOW VALUABLE...
...OTOHATA-KUN'S WORDS WERE.
AYA!

WHY DIDN'T I REALIZE THAT ALL THE THINGS OTOHATA-KUN SAID...
...HE SAID THEM FOR MY SAKE?
ONLY NOW DO I SEE HOW MUCH I NEED HIM...
...EXCEPT NOW IT'S PROBABLY TOO LATE TO GET HIM BACK.
WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY.
LIVE AND LEARN.
WORRYING TOO MUCH...
...ABOUT LOVE AND THE FUTURE "...WE'VE COME TO EXPECT THAT FROM YOU.
IT'S A PART OF YOU. NO PROBLEM THERE!
LIKE OTOHATA SAYS, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GET A STRONGER GRIP ON YOURSELF.

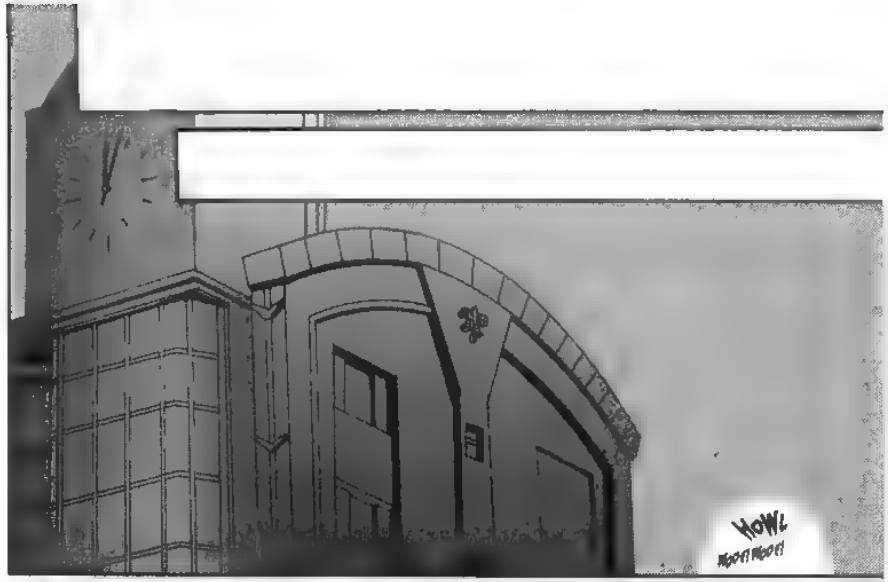
On the other hand, when I was riding the Chuo Line one day, four high school girls got on the train and sat next to me. They were talking about a number of things related to their class, but one thing in particular caught my interest. They mentioned that there was bullying in their classroom, a matter not helped by their teacher, who played favorites in class. Evidently, up until recently, the four girls engaged in bullying themselves, until one of the four spoke up about feeling sorry for their target and went on to encourage her friends and her very to thence forth help the girl who was previously their victim! Apparently agreeing that it wasn't cool to go with the flow of what other people are doing, the four friends changed their ways from then on ☆☆ hearing that really pulled at my heartstrings ☆ A couple of minutes later, accidentally (?) made eye contact with one of the students and I nervously tried to emit a 'good job!' beam! (LOL) In the end, though, I guess you could say I eavesdrop too much! ☆ I'm sure the girl I made eye contact with was nervous, too! (LOL) It all and all, it was a heartwarming story ☆

NEXT.

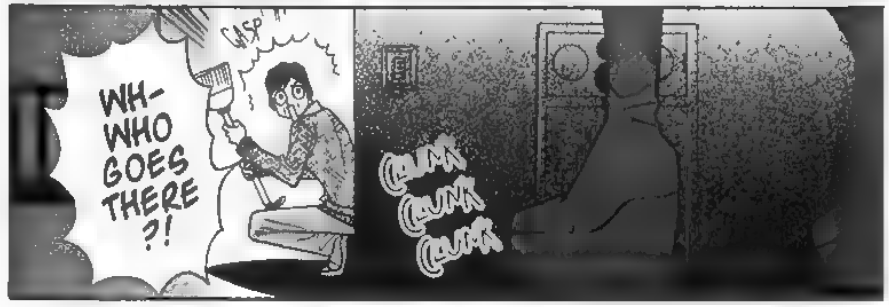
WHAAA—?!
THERE'VE GOTTA BE BETTER GUYS AROUND THAN OTOHATA!
OH! YOU'RE GONNA TAKE ANOTHER CRACK AT HIM?
...AS LONG AS I GO FOR IT!
YEAH. AND MAYBE I DO HAVE A CHANCE AFTER ALL...
WHAT?
AH! I JUST REMEMBERED!!
ISN'T IT OUT OF SEASON?!
HUH? A HAUNTED HOUSE?!
TONIGHT AT SCHOOL...
...THERE'S A HAUNTED HOUSE!

GYAAA!!!
SWISH
I'M A GHOST!!!
THIS FACE?
ENOUGH WITH THAT FACE ALREADY!
D-D-D-DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT!!!

...I'LL POP INTO THE FACULTY ROOM AND TAKE A LOOK AROUND.
OKAY...
...THAT A FLICKERING LIGHT WAS SEEN!
IT WAS AROUND HERE...
MM! AGREED!
COME ON, LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH! ONE PATROLLING LOOP AROUND THE SCHOOL SHOULD DO IT!
NOT A HAUNTED HOUSE?
PATROL?
THIS IS SCARY!


HOWL
WOOF! WOOF!

KOTOBUKI...!
AS LATE AS EVER! HURRY UP AND GET HERE!


GASP
WH-WHO GOES THERE?!
CLANK CLANK CLANK

So I guess, even within the confines of a normal life recently, I've had my share of discoveries and touching moments, all of which I've faithfully recorded for you here, in the pages of "GALS!" Although maybe I didn't give you enough skinny this time around?!

No? It was okay? I just wanna say that I'm thrilled by the increasing number of letters I've been receiving from elementary/junior high/high school/college students, as well as full-time workers and mothers, all of whom write to me with the openness they'd use when writing a friend!♡♡ As usual, worry about butchering the language and writing too casually, but all of the people who send me letters assure me that it's okay, so I assume that they don't mind the plain, unvarnished me!! I really appreciate all the support!!

As long as "GALS!" continues, I promise to keep up this level of high-octane energy, so keep reading, okay?

♡♡

— That's all, folks!

This has been "GALS Research"

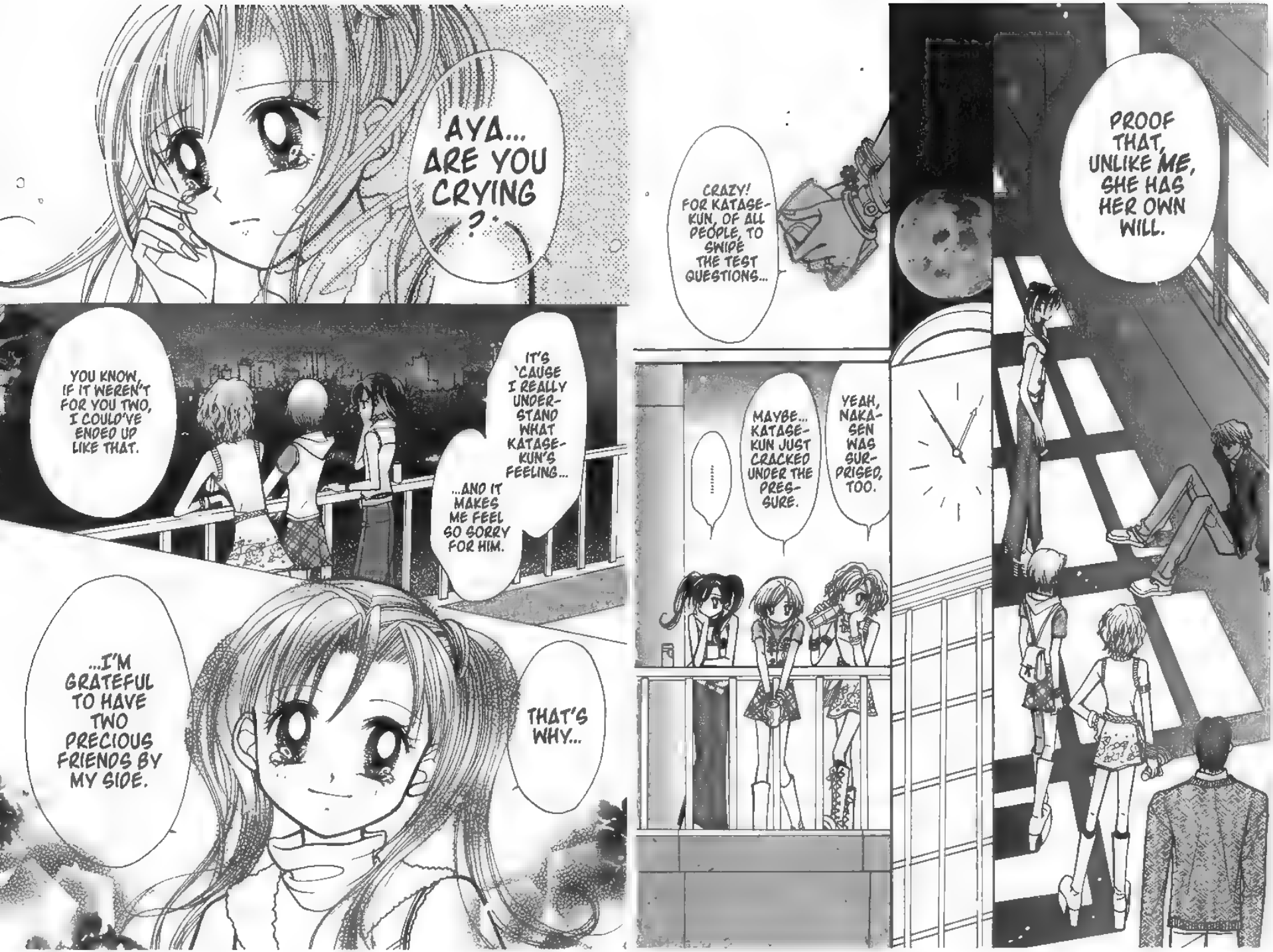
ONLY OF HAVING NO MONEY.
SHE REALLY ISN'T AFRAID OF ANYTHING, IS SHE?
HMM ?!
RATTLE
SAY CHEESE!!!
OR COULD IT BE A REAL GHOST?!
TAP TAP..
NOW THERE'S A SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING FIGURE!!
SIZZLE
I SEND A FEW PHOTOS TO SOME MAGAZINE AND I'LL BE ROLLIN' IN THE REWARD MONEY!!!
OH, YEAH!! GOOD THING I BROUGHT THE CAMERA ALONG!

.....
LATER
...KA-TASE-KUN?!
YOU'RE ...
AH, WELL. I THOUGHT THIS'D HAPPEN SOMEDAY.
CAUGHT ME RED-HANDED, HUH?

NO
I'LL DO IT!!
SH
IF YOU DON'T STOP, YOU'RE GONNA GET A HEAPIN' HELPIN' OF KOTOBUKI RAN-SAMA'S...
HOLD UP, DIRT-BAG!!
!
...SLIDING STORM!!!

I CAN'T FATHOM WHY A BOY LIKE YOU, WITH TWO SUCCESSFUL PARENTS AND EVERYTHING GOING FOR HIM, WOULD DO THIS...
.....
BECAUSE OF THAT!
BECAUSE I HAVE TO LIVE UP TO THAT!
I CAN'T LET MY PARENTS DOWN...
...EVEN IF I HAVE TO JUST ACT THE PART!
...TO HAVE A MOUSY BUT CUTE GIRLFRIEND WHO SHARES THE SAME VALUES THAT I DO...
TO HAVE SUCCESSFUL PARENTS, TO BE SMART...
YOU'RE LIKE A PUPPET.
THE REAL YOU IS NOWHERE IN ALL THIS!
AND WHAT HAVE YOU GAINED FROM YOUR "PERFORMANCE?"
WELL, I THOUGHT AYA-SAN WAS PERFECT FOR ME.
BUT OBVIOUSLY, SHE DIDN'T DO WHAT I SAID.

A FLOPPY DISK...? WHAT FOR?
W-W-WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?!
HAAA
HOW DUMB CAN HOU-NAN'S TEACHERS BE?
I MEAN, COME ON! THE COMPUTER PASSWORD IS "HOU-NAN2!"
EVEN AN IDIOT COULD FIGURE IT OUT.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...YOU COPIED THE TEST QUESTIONS FROM THE SCHOOL'S COMPUTER FILES ONTO THIS?
BINGO!
HOW ELSE WOULD ANYBODY BE ABLE TO SCORE OVER 90% ON MIDTERMS AND FINAL EXAMS TWO YEARS IN A ROW?
THINK ABOUT IT!
OH, WELL. IT WAS GOOD WHILE IT LASTED.
I WONDER WHAT MY DAD WILL SAY ABOUT THIS.


AYA... ARE YOU CRYING?
YOU KNOW, IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU TWO, I COULD'VE ENDED UP LIKE THAT.
IT'S 'CAUSE I REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT KATASE-KUN'S FEELING...
...AND IT MAKES ME FEEL SO SORRY FOR HIM.
...I'M GRATEFUL TO HAVE TWO PRECIOUS FRIENDS BY MY SIDE.
THAT'S WHY...
CRAZY! FOR KATASE-KUN, OF ALL PEOPLE, TO SWIPE THE TEST QUESTIONS...
.....
MAYBE... KATASE-KUN JUST CRACKED UNDER THE PRES-SURE.
YEAH, NAKA-SEN WAS SUR-PRISED, TOO.
PROOF THAT, UNLIKE ME, SHE HAS HER OWN WILL.

DRIP...
HEY. IT'S ME.
I HEARD YOU WERE HAVING SOME TROUBLE?
YEAH... I'M O... KAY...
HEY! ARE YOU OKAY?!
HER ENTIRE HEAD MUST BE FILLED WITH TEARS...!
THERE GO THE WATER-WORKS AGAIN...
I THINK I UNDER-STAND.
WHEN I HEAR HIS VOICE, I CAN'T STOP CRYING, SO TALK TO HIM FOR ME!!
FWISH

RING
H-HELLO...

JUST A LITTLE?!
ISN'T THAT LAYING IT ON A LITTLE THICK?!
NATCH! NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, NOTHING WILL BREAK OUR BOND OF FRIENDSHIP!
REALLY?!
AWA WA WA!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?! IT'S OTO-HATA-KUN!!
AAAHH!!
ANSWER IT!!
Pi Pi Pi Pi
HM?

I'M HANGING UP NOW.
WHAT ARE YOU, A CHILD ?!
STUPID?! WHAT YOU SAY IS WHAT YOU ARE, YOU'RE A NAKED MOVIE STAR!!!
CHUCKLE
YOU COULD BE RIGHT.
ENOUGH BUZZING IN MY EAR FOR ONE NIGHT!
A CHILD?! YOU CALLING ME A LITTLE... AH!
WHICH REMINDS ME, HOW DID I GET DRAGGED INTO THIS?!
AH, IF KOTO-BUKI'S WITH HER, SHE'LL BE FINE, DON'T YOU THINK ?
WAS AYA-CHAN ALRIGHT ?
MMM, BY RAN-CHAN'S POWER ?

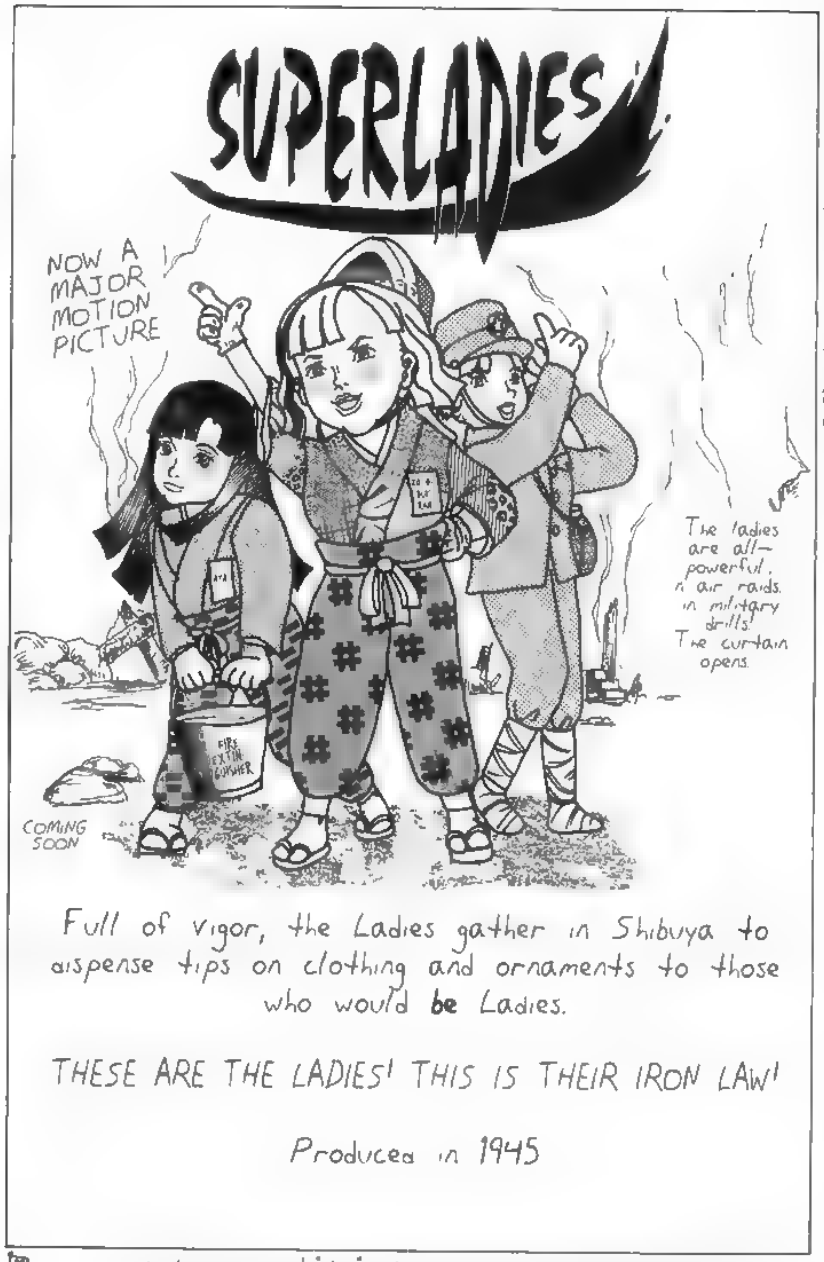
HELLOOO!! THIS IS RAN!
OTO-CHI?
SO YOU'RE HYPER EVEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, HUH?
ME, I LIKE TO SLEEP.
STUPID.
UNLIKE YOU, I'M ALWAYS CALM AND COLLECTED, THAT'S ALL.
WONDERS'LL NEVER CEASE! YOUR ADVICE TO AYA WAS RIGHT ON TARGET!
GUESS I'D BETTER REAS-SESS MY OPINION OF YOU!

MEGA-CUTE, NO? ♡
PINK BRAIDED EXTENSIONS!!!
TATSUKICHI AND I SAVED UP MONEY FROM OUR PART-TIME JOB! OF COURSE, ALL WE COULD AFFORD WAS THREE BRAIDS!
PFFT!!
THREE BRAIDS?!
SHADDUP! THEY'RE CUTE AND THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!!
FITTING FOR THE WORLD'S POOREST GAL!! ONLY THREE BRAIDS!!!
MAYBE HE'S HAVING A BAD DAY?
TATSUKICHI-KUN SEEMS A LITTLE DOWN. I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG?

Days later...
JR
JR東日本
渋谷
SHIBUYA STATION
CHECK IT OUT!!!

I'M GONNA GO HOME AND GET SOME SLEEP.
SEE YA!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT? MY RADAR IS SOUNDING AN ALARM...
...MAYBE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH RAN!
「...」?
D-DON'T ASK ME!
NOW...
...WHAT WAS THAT... SUPPOSED TO MEAN?! EXPLAIN IT TO ME, MAN!!

OF COURSE, YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT WHAT TO GET HIM FOR AN ANNIVERSARY PRESENT, RIGHT?
HEY, THAT REMINDS ME, LAST CHRISTMAS IS WHEN YOU SPREAD THE WORD THAT TATSUKICHI-KUN WAS YOUR BOYFRIEND! SO YOU'VE BEEN GOING OUT FOR ONE YEAR!
JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE ALL THE WAY...
JUST LIKE LAST YEAR, I'M GONNA SPEND THIS CHRIST-MAS DECKING THE HALLS OF ALL THE CLUBS IN SHIBUYA !!!


SUPERLADIES
NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE
The ladies are all-powerful, in air raids, in military drills! The curtain opens.
FIRE EXTIN GUISHER
COMING SOON
Full of vigor, the Ladies gather in Shibuya to dispense tips on clothing and ornaments to those who would be Ladies.
THESE ARE THE LADIES! THIS IS THEIR IRON LAW!
Produced in 1945

To commemorate the anime version of "GALS!," my big brother came up with this for us "LOL" too hilarious! (Explosive LOL) Whew, my stomach hurts!! Really, bro, thanks for drawing there every time!

GALS!
24
Episode 24: Funky Fun Xmas!!

PICKING OUT A PRESENT TAKES TIME, Y'KNOW!
I'VE ALREADY PREPARED OUR ANNIVERSARY PRESENT AND IT'S NOT FOR A WHILE YET!
NYA AI
COME ON, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A COUPLE BREAK UP BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ANNIVERSARY PRESENT ?!
IT'S PART OF MY CODE NOT TO GIVE PRESENTS TO GUYS!

FRESHMEN GALS LECTURE FOR ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!!!

⑤ GALS' SOUL CHECK!!

I've gotten tons of letters from people asking about how to become a GAL so I've put forth the courage as a response. may not have done a thorough job, but if you consult my notes even a little, I'm thrilled!

GAL=having a strong will and being friendly with everyone meh, that's got nothing to do with me in my opinion, GAL have problems like everybody else, but if them are all the shy side and there are all sort of personalities still, there's this will maybe that's stuck as if one size fits all but as contrare, not as there are different kinds of GAL, there are different kinds of GAL fashion styles that said, I do believe GAL have a major influence on what becomes Japan's fashion trends with a taste for flash and sensitive to what's cool, they aggressively adopt the best new styles that are out and make 'em their own! MAGIC power. That's why, to the girls who tell me I want to become a GAL, but for me, it's impossible, I say just wishing to mean you've already got a GAL soul! "LOL" so to be a full-fledged GAL, now all you've gotta do is build up your shopping experience and wear attention-getting fashions before you know it, you'll be having a blast every day! And then try to convert your friends to GAL-hood! Don't worry if your language starts to become a little more casual the world won't end "LOL" Anyway, the way it is to treasure having fun and cultivating a heart that wishes to shine for all the world to see! Do that and you'll get cooler and cooler and cuter and cuter as the days go by! And I'm not just blowin' smoke here. For real! Good luck, freshmen GALS! ☆☆

fun to be an immature GAL! "LOL" (Hmmm...All words here, too. Could you read all this? "LOL" ☆☆

BONUS CORNER ♡ "SUPERGALS!" KOTOBUKI RAN

ANIME INFO CORNER!!!

I don't know if I'm any good as a reporter, but I'll give it a shot anyway!!

I got to go to the recording for the first episode! First, I was bowled over by the powerful reception I got from the voice actors!! They were fresh faces to me♥♥ Let's begin with the female characters. Ran is played by Toyoguchi Megumi-chan ("Megu-Megu"), who is mega-cute, is a great voice actress and has right-on fashion sense!!" "Megu-Megu" was wearing Shibuya casual-style clothes that day!♥ It was the second time for me to meet Osada-chan, who always wears cute shoes!♥ Ikezawa-san had a ton of recording to do that day, so I only had time to exchange a few words with her. Everyone fit my image of the characters perfectly!♥

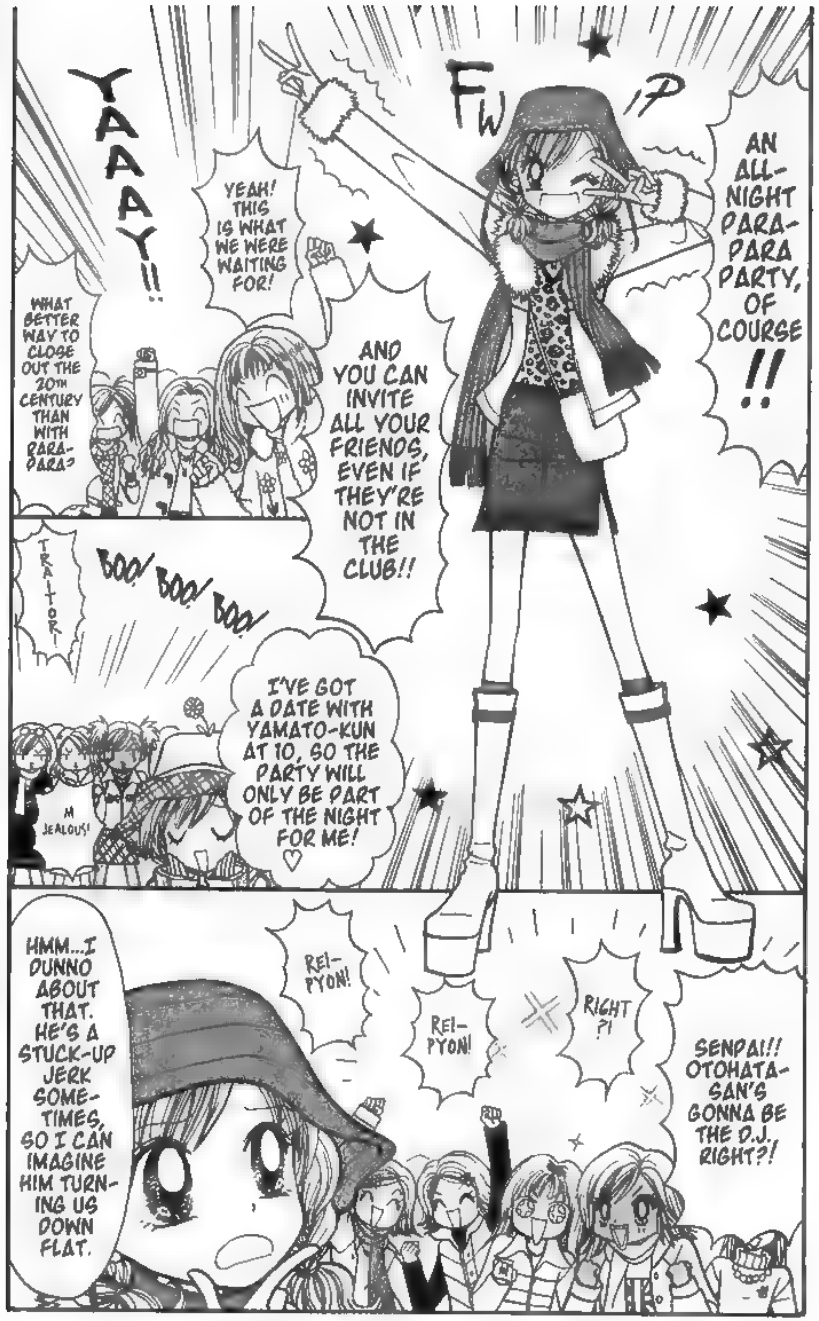
The male actors all deserve applause, too, for fitting their characters to a T!! After the recording and post-recording photo shoot, Kamiya-kun sheepishly confided to me that "having my picture taken is the one thing I'm still not used to." Despite that, he remains a cool and handsome guy. If you searched the world over, you'd never find another guy who could be a better choice for Number Two-kun than Suzumura-kun. So finding him was a miracle!! And my hat's off to Takahashi-kun for being unerringly charismatic from his audition tape on!! The voices for the three tanned "sisters," Satsuki, and Re are also fab, but I hope the voice actors for them crank up the energy even more! I'm behind you guys all the way!♥ The opening theme and ending theme are awesome!!♥ Have you heard it already?! Have you?! The opening song is "That Girl" by dicot-san. Go out and get the CD if you haven't already!! It's so catchy that if you hear the song once, it'll play over and over again in your head!♥ My big bro likes it so much that he's always humming the song's refrain to himself!!! (LOL) When I first heard the ending song, "I Wanna Hold You," by JUNGLE SMILE-san, on a demo tape, I was moved! ☆The CD is out on 5/23!! Get it!! "SuperGALS! Kotobuki Ran" is really lucky to have two awesome songs backing it up! ☆☆

♥I'm indebted to Studio Perro!♥

The enthusiasm of the people from Studio Perro is amazing!! I wanna do my best at the manga to help support their anime version!! It takes an unbelievable amount of time and effort just to create one episode!! But keep it up, Studio Perro!! You've got a fan in me!!

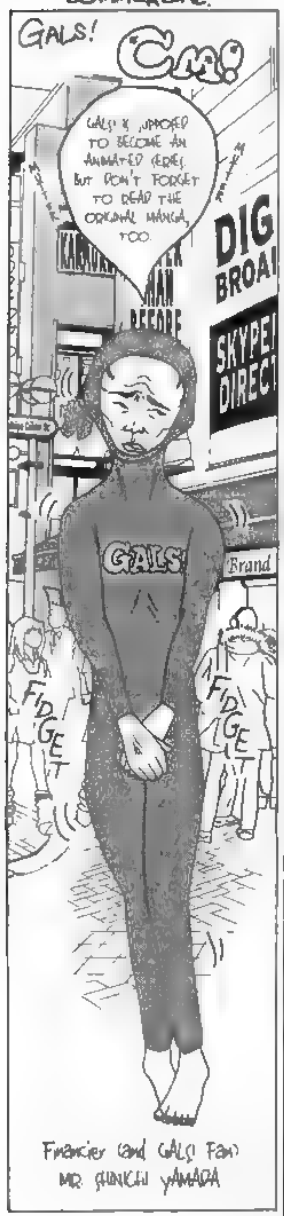
By the time this volume was ready for publication, more cast members were added to the roster, increasing the prestige of the whole production! ☆You can bet that as a regular TV viewer, I'm looking forward to watching the show every week on TV!! Of course, I'm gonna be knocking out the manga as best as I can, as always, so I hope all of you indulge "GALS" in a double dose, in print and on TV!!♥

Boy, this page is words and nothing but!! Sorry!!


YAAAY!!
YEAH! THIS IS WHAT WE WERE WAITING FOR!
WHAT BETTER WAY TO CLOSE OUT THE 20TH CENTURY THAN WITH PARA-PARA?
AND YOU CAN INVITE ALL YOUR FRIENDS, EVEN IF THEY'RE NOT IN THE CLUB!!
FWIP
AN ALL-NIGHT PARA-PARA PARTY, OF COURSE!!
TRAITOR!
BOO! BOO! BOO!
I'VE GOT A DATE WITH YAMATO-KUN AT 10, SO THE PARTY WILL ONLY BE PART OF THE NIGHT FOR ME! ♡
M JEALOUS!
HMM...I DUNNO ABOUT THAT. HE'S A STUCK-UP JERK SOMETIMES, SO I CAN IMAGINE HIM TURNING US DOWN FLAT.
REI-PYON!
REI-PYON!
RIGHT?!
SENPAI!! OTOHATA-SAN'S GONNA BE THE D.J. RIGHT?!

Sunday 12th, Hol
Sunday CLOSED 1-9
PARAMACY RAMEN
AH! SENPAI!
JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE ALL THE WAY...
WHEN WE KNOW THE REAL REASON BEHIND HER "CODE" IS THAT SHE'S POOR.
SHE PUTS UP A GOOD FRONT.
OH, COME ON! WE'RE HERE TO DISCUSS THE SHIBUYA CLUB'S CHRISTMAS PARTY, REMEMBER?!
WHAT WAS TODAY'S MEETING ABOUT AGAIN?
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO, RAN-SAN?

GALS! STREET CORNER COMMERCIAL!



Francies (and GALS) Fan
MR. SHINICHI YAMADA

SNORT!
COME HERE!
CHECK THIS OUT!
JUST BEFORE DAWN, MONKICHI, A JAPANESE MONKEY, WAS SPOTTED IN THE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT OF MEGURO, TOKYO...

REMEMBER WHEN THERE WAS A MONKEY HANGING AROUND NISHI-AZABU? HE WAS NEVER CAUGHT!
HMMM... THEN THERE'S A STRONG CHANCE THE LITTLE FELLA' IS STILL IN TOKYO. UH-OH!
MONKEY ON THE LOOSE? BWAHAHA!
HIS OWNER AND PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER WORKERS ARE CONTINUING TO SEARCH, BUT SO FAR HAVE NO LEADS...

YAYYY!
THAT'S NOT FOR CHRISTMAS!
REI-TYON!
HAH?!
WHAT GOOD'LL THAT DO?
REI-TYON!
WE CAN WISH UPON A STAR!!
IF HE SAYS OKAY, IT'LL BE A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE!
GOOD! AS LONG AS I GET TO SEE HIM ON CHRISTMAS EVE, I'LL BE HAPPY!
BUT I'M WILLING TO ASK HIM!

*TRADITIONAL JAPANESE SONGS OFTEN SUNG MELODRAMATICALLY
DAD... CHRISTMAS CAROLS ARE ALL WELL AND GOOD, BUT COULD YOU NOT SING 'EM ENKA* STYLE?!
AH, DECORATING THE TREE ALWAYS MAKES ME FEEL WARM AND FUZZY!
ALLL IS CALM ...
CHRISTMAS EVE IS STILL A WEEK AWAY, DEAR!
SIIILENT NIGHT...
... HOOOLY NIGHT ...

...ALL FILLED WITH THAT SPECIAL INGREDIENT KNOWN AS LOVE!
I'M MAKING CHRISTMAS COOKIES AND A CHRISTMAS CAKE...
HM?
WHY NOT BAKE YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENT, LIKE ME?
LOVE, HUH? I SEE...
AWA-WAWA! YOU GOTTA HAVE A GENTLER TOUCH!!
SPLA SPLA SPLA
LESSEE, FLOUR, SUGAR, EGGS...
WELL, IF YOU CAN DO IT, IT'S GOTTA BE A CINCH FOR ME!
I DON'T THINK THERE'S A DROP OF LOVE IN THERE!!!
WHA---?!
DING
OH DEAR

I'D MUCH RATHER RAP ABOUT UPPING MY ALLOW-ANCE!
IF A MONKEY IS THE ONLY DISTURBANCE IN OUR CITY, WE'RE LIVING IN PEACEFUL TIMES. NO MAJOR HAPPENINGS AT THE END OF THE YEAR AND WE CAN SAFELY USHER IN THE NEW CENTURY. WHAT DO YOU THINK, RAN? SHALL WE RHAPSODIZE ABOUT CRIME PREVENTION?!
HOW CAN YOU PROTECT THE FUTURE OF JAPAN WHEN ALL YOU'VE GOT ON YOUR MIND IS MONEY
?!?
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU, I'M NOT GONNA BE A COP!!
FOR JAPAN'S SAKE, I SURE HOPE NOT...
EXACTO MUNDO!! CAN'T FOOL YOU, POP!! NOW PLEASE GIVE ME MONEY ♡ TO BUY CHRISTMAS PRESENTS!
HAHAHA
YOU USED IT ALL UP AGAIN, EH?
WITLESS WHELP!!!
SMACK
SQUISH
AAAAH!

AH!
...I KNOW! ♡ MAYBE I CAN GET TATSUKICHI TO BUY 'EM FOR ME FOR CHRISTMAS!!
I REALLY WANTED THOSE BOOTS...
"REI-PYON?!"
REI-PYON!!

I GOTTA HAVE 'EM!!
MAN!!! THESE ARE FAN-FRIG-GIN'-TASTIC!!!
MY BOOTS?
AAAAH! GOODBYE, MY SWEET BOOTS!
TOO EXPENSIVE!!! IMPOSSIBLE!!! THAT'S ONE MORE ZERO THAN I HAVE!!
THEY'RE 20,000 YEN.
ROLL ROLL

DON'T FEED ME STUFF THAT'S BEEN DETONATED!
OF ALL THE NERVE...!! ALTHOUGH MAYBE THAT EXPLOSION IN THE OVEN WASN'T A GOOD THING...
MORE LIKE TORTURED. BURP
WELL?! ARE YOUR TASTE BUDS TANTALIZED?!
ALRIGHT, ALREADY! I'LL DO IT! NOW LET ME GO!
PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE!
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?! I'M DOING A SHOOT RIGHT NOW! THE CLOTHES'LL STRETCH!
ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS SPIN A FEW RECORDS!!
NO WAY.
BY THE WAY, HOW ABOUT DJ'ING FOR THE SHIBUYA CLUB'S PARA-PARA PARTY ON CHRISTMAS EVE?
CRUD... IT JUST SLIPPED OUT...
YAYYY! THANK YOU !!!
REALLY ?!

Y'KNOW, I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A PHOTO SHOOT HERE...
OH, I ALMOST FORGOT!! WAIT A SEC!!
DO ME A FAVOR AND QUIT MANGLING MY NAME!
WE GO FROM "OTO-'CHI" TO "REI-PYON ?!"
TODAY'S MY LUCKY DAY!! I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR YOU!
BEHOLD! THE FIRST COOKIE I'VE EVER BAKED!!
TA-DAAA !!
CHARRED
BOP
NUMMY-NUMMY !!
LIKE I SAID, I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A PHOTO SHOOT...I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS!
ACTUALLY, THIS IS FROM MY TEST BATCH!! DO ME A FAVOR AND SAMPLE IT!!

WOOSH
TOY
CHRISTMAS SALE NOW!!
CHOC-OLATE ♥!!
THANK YOU!
A TAN SANTA!
HEY, THERE'S SANTA!
...SHE EVEN LET SOME-BODY TAKE A PICTURE OF THE TWO OF THEM TOGETHER ON A STREET CORNER ...
I GOT HIS EYEBROWS!
I GOT HIS BEARD!
...AND LOOK AT THAT DAZ-ZLING SMILE SHE GAVE HIM...
...LOOKS LIKE SHE FED OTO-CHI A HOME-MADE COOKIE ...
AH! THIS SANTA'S GOT BLOND HAIR!
GIMME SOMETHING!
RAN-PYON ...

OKAY!! I LOVE CHOC-OLATE !!
AFTER
I'LL GIVE YOU SOME CHOC-OLATE IF YOU DO IT...
JEEZ, TELL ME YOU'RE KIDDING!
LISTEN, I'M PUTTING TOGETHER A ONE-SHOT MAG CALLED "STREET GALS!" CAN I GET A PHOTO OF YOU AND OTOHATA-KUN TOGETHER FOR IT?
UH-UH.
SHAKE SHAKE
HUH? RAN-CHAN, ARE YOU OTO-HATA-KUN'S GIRL-FRIEND ?
HUH? OH, I DON'T KNOW...
PLEEEASE?! OTOHATA-KUN HASN'T POSED FOR US IN A WHILE NOW, SO I GUARANTEE YOU IT'LL BE A BIG SPREAD!
READY, AND...
TO THE 21ST CEN-TURY !!!
THIS SUCKS ...
FLASH!

HMM... YEAH, SURE SOUNDS LIKE SHE'S DUMPED YOU.
I MEAN, COME ON, WHEN SHE CAN BE WITH OTOHATA REI?
UGH! SHE GOT ME! RIGHT IN THE HEART!
AND RIGHT NOW, WEARING THAT GET-UP, HE IS DEFINITELY A LOSER!
GALS DON'T GO OUT WITH LOSERS!
MAMI-RIN, IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO SAY THAT!

GASP
IT'S TA-TSUKI...
...BEING A PART-TIME SANTA, I TAKE IT.
YUYA, LOOK.
TROMP TROMP TR
BROTHER!!!
OH
HO-HO-HO!
WHA --?!
"BONE-HEAD BROTH-ERS..."
NO, YOU'RE FREAK-IN ME OUT!
BROTHER, WAIT UP!!
DON'T RUN ME DOWN!!!

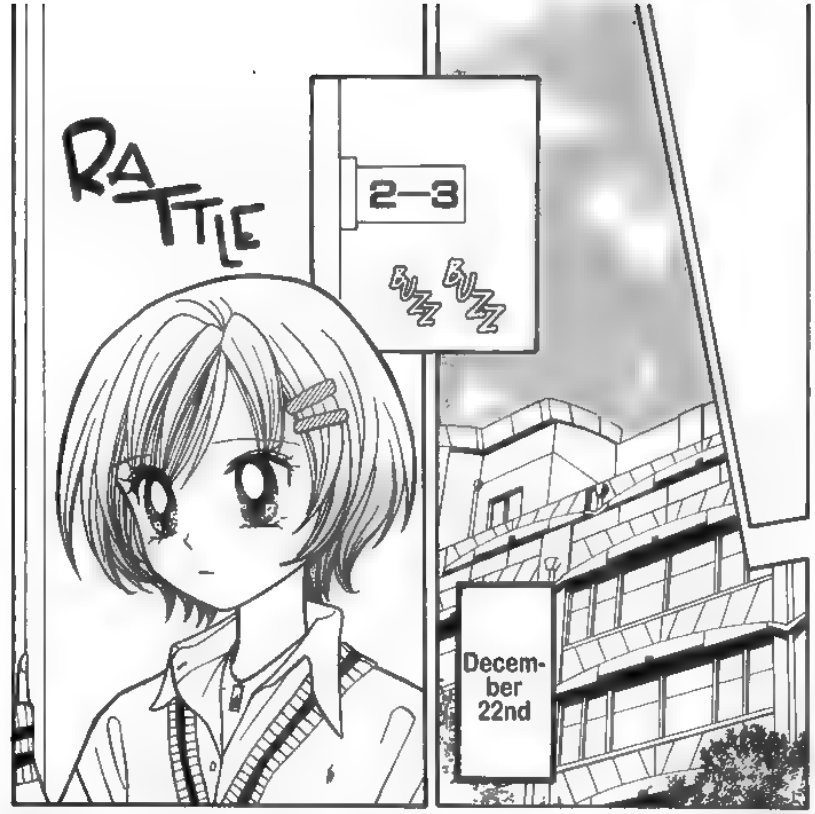
SWISH!!
AAGHH!!
LOSER!!!
BUT FOR YOU TO WHIMPER THIS SELF-PITYING CRAP BASED SOLELY ON SOME "INTUITION..." THEN YOU'RE JUST A MAJOR
OFF WITH YOU! GO BACK TO YOUR CORNER OF TOKYO!
GLOOM
SWOON
HUH.
AM I A FOUNTAIN OF WISDOM OR WHAT?
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO TACK ON THAT LAST BIT, MAMI-RIN...
I'M GOING BACK HOME TO MACHIDA.
FLUTTER

GLOOM
GLOOM
...WHICH, IF TRUE, MEANS I DON'T STAND A CHANCE...
AND MY INSTINCTS TELL ME THAT OTO-CHI UNDER-STANDS RAN BETTER THAN I DO...
HEY, TAN SANTA!
IT MAKES YOU STRONG IN SOME WAYS AND WEAK IN OTHER WAYS!
LET ME TELL YOU SOME-THING ABOUT LOVE!
...ABOUT WHE-THER I'M LIVING UP TO MY DUTIES AS A BOY-FRIEND TO RAN.
HONESTLY, THOUGH, I'VE BEEN THINKING A LOT THESE DAYS...
IT KINDA FEELS LIKE WHEN RAN'S REALLY NEEDED ME, I HAVEN'T BEEN THERE FOR HER.

DIGITAL MIHONA-CHAN

Thanks to those of you who always check out my homepage♡ but!! Right now, Mihona's Little Room is undergoing renovations. Not only that, I'm gonna get a change of address, too.
Sorry for the inconvenience, but please give me a little more time before it's ready. The site administrator is working hard to help me meet my goals of making the homepage even easier to use and more fun. My mail address is also down during this time, so if you want to get through to me, please send a letter via the editorial department at Ribon.♡
(Not by e-mail!)
Studio Pierro's website for superGALS! Kotobuki Ran is up and running, and I've posted comments on the site about it, so check it out!! It's an incredibly cute homepage!♡♡And there's lots of stuff to look at, like interviews with the voice actors♡
There's also some coverage on TV Tokyo's homepage♡ as well as TOMY's homepage!♡
You gotta check those out, too!♡♡

WAA!
...WITH AN AVERAGE SCORE OF 85, MEANING THE SCHOOL'S GONNA GIVE ME MONEY FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND SO I CAN GO ON THE SCHOOL TRIP!!
YEAH!!
DON'T SCARE US LIKE THAT!!!
SNIFF... THIS BRINGS A TEAR TO MY EYE...
THE TRIP WOULDN'T BE ANY FUN IF WE DIDN'T ALL GO!
IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU GUYS!
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT, QUIET DOWN! TAKE YOUR SEATS.
THAT'S STEAMED MEAT BUNS
BUZZ
BUZZ
TAIWAN! TAIWAN! DIM SUM!
STEWED MEAT BUNS



SO BE SURE TO PREPARE EVERY-THING DURING THE WINTER BREAK!
AS YOU'RE ALREADY AWARE, RIGHT AFTER NEW YEAR'S, WE'RE GOING ON OUR SCHOOL TRIP, TO TAIWAN.

THAT SAID, I HOPE EVERY-ONE HAS A GREAT NEW YEAR'S!
SOME OF YOU...LIKE KOTOBUKI... WILL ALSO BE BUSY CATCHING UP ON YOUR STUDIES DURING THE BREAK!
REALLY? YOUR PARADE OF LOUSY GRADES DIDN'T CLUE YOU IN?
THUMP
AH!! HE CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD!!
DO BANANAS COUNT AS A SNACK?
SWISH
CAN WE SPEND UP TO 300 YEN ON SNACKS?!
WE'RE NOT GOING ON A PICNIC! WE'RE GOING TO ANOTHER COUNTRY!!!
NO, NO, NO!

AFTERWORD

Well, this time has turned out to be another round of long-winded free talk, but for those of you who read the whole thing, seriously, thank you!! It's a true blue miracle that I've lasted this long, all the way through six volumes! (SNIFF)

Of course, it would never have been possible if not for all of you readers! 100% sincere thank you!! A special shout-outs go out to the person who's become super famous because of all this (LOL), my right-hand man as an editor, Tom-chi-rama, my Mommy, who puts up with all my irrational behavioral fits and sticks with me, my big brother, who always watches over me, Poppy, Grandma, T-mochi (LOL), all of the Ribon part-timers who come by to pick up the work, everyone at the superGals! project, who accompanied me on my research outings to Shibuya, my friends, who encourage me, and last but never least, all of you readers☆ To everyone who has some connection to GALS!, I thank you from the bottom of my heart!!! Until GALS! volume 7 comes out ((((((((seven!! whoooa, baby! Lucky seven!!), I bid you adieu!!

See you next!

Mihona Fujii 2001.3 Spring

ARE YOU TELLING US YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FOR TATSUKICHI?
LOVE AGAIN, HUH? YOU AND SAYO ARE ON THE SAME WAVE-LENGTH!
MY LOVE IS PACKED INTO EVERY STITCH!
THIS YEAR FOR SURE WE'RE GONNA HAVE A ROMANTIC CHRIST-MAS!
THAT'S COLD!

December 24th...
HOW'RE YOU MAKING IT GO LIKE THAT...?!
.....
ONE... TWO...
DON'T PANIC! COME ON, WE CAN START AGAIN!
SHIBUYA 109
HASEKO

GRRR
IF I SET MY MIND TO IT, I COULD KNIT A STUPID SCARF AT LEAST !!!
LIKE RAN COULD ACTUALLY KNIT A SCARF!
YEAH, RIGHT!
IF YOU START TODAY, YOU CAN BE FINISHED BY THE 24TH!
WHY DON'T YOU KNIT HIM A SCARF?
I HAVE FOUR BALLS OF RED YARN LEFT OVER.
ZKOZKOZKO!!
STUPID YARN !!!
ONE... TWO... THREE...?
THERE YOU GO!
NOW PUSH IT THROUGH THE LOOPS ...1, 2, 3...
HERE? HUH?!
NO, NO, THAT'S THE FIRST LOOP AND THAT'S THE SECOND ONE...
I DON'T GET IT...

NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I HAVEN'T SEEN TATSUKICHI-KUN AROUND LATELY.
Y'KNOW, TATSU-KICHI'S LATE! EVEN THOUGH ...
...I SENT AN E-MAIL TELLING HIM WHERE AND WHEN THE PARTY IS!
WHUP
ACK!
AND I DON'T THINK HE'S COMING BACK!
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR MAN, I THINK HE WENT HOME TO MACHIDA.
WHAT ?!

EVERYBODY TOGETHER!
PAW
PAW
MERRY CHRIS AS!
I DON'T EVEN LIKE THIS STUFF... GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
LET THE MUSIC BEGIN!!!

Merry
HACHI ...
...THIS MIGHT BE THE LAST TIME I SEE YOU...
Merry Christmas
AFTER ALL, I'M REALLY JUST A GREEN-HORN HERE...
...THEY DON'T EVEN TAKE ME FOR A FELLOW TOKYOITE!
AND WITHOUT RAN, I'M JUST THE KING OF PLAIN OLD MACHIDA...

ALL I KNOW IS HE WAS MOPING AROUND, GOING LIKE, "I'M NOT THE RIGHT BOYFRIEND FOR RAN!"
WHAT'S UP?
DUNNO
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN ?!
OH, AND "I DON'T HAVE A CHANCE AGAINST OTOHATA!" ALONG THOSE LINES...
GET UP ON THE STAGE!
.....
ALRIGHT!
TAKE OVER FOR ME, WILLYA ?!
HAAA?! I DON'T HAVE A CLUE WHAT HE WAS BABBLING ABOUT, BUT I'M GONNA GO FIND OUT!!

WHOA!
BIG IDIOT!!
AAAGHH!
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT THIS CRAZY IDEA IN YOUR HEAD...
...BUT I HEAR YOU'RE GOING BACK TO MACHIDA?! DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT!!!
THERE YOU ARE!!
GASP
...GOOD-BYE, SHIBUYA ...
SO GOOD-BYE, HACHI-KO...
...AND GOOOD-BYE, MY DEAR RAN-PYON.
THUDTHUDTHUD
...UUU...
...UU...
...Y O...

I'M BAD AT TALKING THAT MUSHY ROMANTIC STUFF...
...BUT I WILL SAY THIS!
WHAM
WHAT, DO YOU EXPECT ME TO EMBARRASS MYSELF TO DEATH BY SAYING "I LOVE YOU?!"
YOU'RE NOT "OKAY" AS MY BOYFRIEND.
YOU'RE GREAT AS MY BOYFRIEND!

WHO ARE YOU TO DECIDE MY FEELINGS FOR ME?!
I DON'T CARE?!
YOU DON'T GET TO DECIDE THAT I DON'T NEED YOU, DOOFUS!!
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE, RANPYON?! YOU DON'T EVEN CARE WHEN I'M NOT AROUND!
I BET YOU'VE EVEN FORGOTTEN ABOUT OUR ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY!!
I LOVE YOU, RAN...
...AND I'M REALLY INTO YOU...
...BUT YOU'VE NEVER TOLD ME, NOT ONCE, THAT YOU LOVE ME OR ANYTHING EVEN CLOSE TO THAT!
SO I THINK IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT I START TO WONDER WHETHER I'M OKAY AS YOUR BOYFRIEND!

A MONKEY?!?
EEP!
HEY, A MONKEY!
WAA!
DUDE, I KNOW THAT MONKEY!
WAA!
YEAH, HE WAS ON THE NEWS!
HIS NAME IS MONKICHI!
FRONT
Coca-Cola
IT SEEMS THAT MONKICHI THE MONKEY HAS STOPPED HANGING AROUND IN MEGURO AND HAS MOVED ON TO SHIBUYA.
HIS OWNER, SARUTA-SAN, HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE'LL GIVE 50,000 YEN TO THE PERSON WHO SAFELY CATCHES MONKICHI.
SERIOUSLY?!
A CASH REWARD?!

FWIP
TA-DAA!
I-I'M TOUCHED, BUT... I'M OVER HERE.
A HAND-KNIT SCARF! YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I WENT THROUGH TO MAKE THIS!
AND, LIKE, I COULD FORGET OUR ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY!
WELL, OKAY, ACTUALLY I DID FORGET.
RAN... DO YOU MEAN IT?
DRIP
HM?

CHUCKLE
WHEN... LOOKS LIKE THIS CHRIST-MAS EVE REALLY IS A SILENT NIGHT.
WHICH MEANS THIS YEAR, I GET TO HAVE A REAL DATE WITH MIYU!
DASH
W-WHAT'S GOING ON?! WHAT'S THE NET FOR?!
A MONKEY!!
GRAB A NET AND FALL IN!!
HUH?!
ACK!
I'LL HEAD FOR CENTER STREET!
LET'S SPLIT UP!
I'LL TAKE DOGEN-ZAKA!
IS THIS FOR REAL?!

FWIP
SWISH
KEE KEE!
COME TO MAMA, REWARD MONEY!!
AH!
CHASE AFTER 'IM!
WAA!
WAA!
COME BACK HERE, YOU LITTLE--!
OOK! OOK! OOK!
CATCH 'IM!
THUD
THUD
THUD
NOTHING TO REPORT!
I'VE JUST FINISHED PATROLLING UDAGA-WACHO.

WOOP
LOOK OUT!
NO, THAT'S OKAY. I GUESS ALL THE KOTOBUKI'S ARE OUT TO GET ME TONIGHT!!
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
WE'RE AFTER THE REWARD ON HIM!
KYAA!
KYAA!
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY'S THAT MONKEY WEARING A SCARF?!
AAHH!
OOMPH!
GIMME BACK MY SCARF!!
HERE, AT LEAST TAKE MY PRESENT!
WHY DOES SOMETHING ALWAYS HAVE TO COME UP?!
I'M SORRY, MIYU...BUT UNTIL WE CATCH THAT MONKEY, OUR DATE WILL HAVE TO WAIT!
AFTER HIM!
HE'S GETTING AWAY!
SORREEE!
SIS, YOU IDIOT!!!

FRONTIC
SAYO'S SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CAKE!!
CHECK IT OUT!
BO-ING
?!
HE WENT IN HERE!
KYAA!
KYAA!
THAT IS AWESOME!
IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!
AND LOOK, IT'S GOT ME AND MASATO ON TOP!

T-TALK TO HIM?
IF YOU TALK TO HIM CALMLY, HE'LL UNDER-STAND.
I'M SURE MONKICHI WAS JUST OVER-WHELMED BY THE CONCRETE JUNGLE.
DON'T BE SCAR-ED.
EEP-EEP!
EVERY-THING'S GOING TO BE OKAY.
OOOK...
ARE YOU BACK IN LOVE WITH ME?!
THAT WAS SO RAD TATSUKICHI!! THAT'S MY BOYFRIEND!!
I THINK YOU ACTUALLY GOT THROUGH TO HIM!
CLAP, CLAP
BRAVO!!
AMAZ-ING!!
OOOOHHH!!

RUSTLE
HMV
サロンパス
WAA! WAA!
THUD THUD THUD THUD
WAA! YA-MATO-KUN!
I'LL TREA-SURE IT!
I'LL CALL YOU LATER!!
IT'S A FAN SYSTEM APPOINT-MENT BOOK!!
I FEEL SO SORRY FOR HIM!
EXCUSE ME, OFFICERS.
EASY DOES IT...
SSSH! DON'T SCARE HIM!
WE FINALLY GOT HIM COR-NERED!

REI... WHO DO YOU LIKE BETTER?
I DUNNO... I MEAN, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
Y'KNOW, YOU'RE GREAT AT DODGING QUESTIONS...
WHAT WAS THE QUESTION?
LET'S LEAVE MY SISTER'S STUPID FACE-PRINT!!
IT LOOKS LIKE A CAKE O' LANTERN!
GALS! 6: THE END

WELL, ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!!
WE GOT YOUR HOME-MADE SCARF BACK...
...AND YOU CAN BUY ME BOOTS WITH THE REWARD MONEY!!! THE ONES THAT COST 20,000 YEN!
THEY FIT PER-FECTLY!
WHY, WERE THEY FIGHTING? FIRST I HEARD OF IT.
AH, TATSU-KI'S THE KIND OF GUY THAT JUMPS TO CON-CLUSIONS ...
...BUT THIS TIME HE MAY HAVE BEEN ON THE RIGHT TRACK.
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE RAN-CHAN AND TATSUKI HAVE PATCHED THINGS UP.

THE FUN CONTINUES! ON SALE JULY 2006!

GALS!

Volume 7

During her school trip to Taiwan, Ran is mistaken for a Taiwanese celebrity. Soon, she makes a deal with the real star to keep up the charade so the actress can escape her entourage and rendezvous with her secret boyfriend. But Ran finds herself in a tight spot when she is forced to appear on a Taiwan TV quiz show and she can't speak Chinese!

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GALS!

Mihona Fujii

Fearless Kotobuki Ran strolls through the streets of trendy Shibuya with her Gal Pals on a quest for designer goods... at the same time dispensing her own brand of street justice!

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